



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

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Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

Developmental Disabilities Administration

Bernard Simons, Executive Director

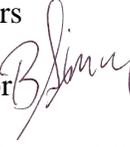
MEMORANDUM

Transmittal # DDA2014013

Date: August 15, 2014

To: DDA Resource Coordinators

CC: DDA Assistant Directors  
DDA Regional and Deputy Directors

From: Bernard Simons, Executive Director 

Re: Medicaid eligibility, Waiver eligibility, and Special Needs Trusts

THIS LETTER IS AVAILABLE IN ACCESSIBLE FORMATS, TO REQUEST ANOTHER FORMAT, PLEASE CONTACT DDA AT [HELPDESK.DDA@MARYLAND.GOV](mailto:HELPDESK.DDA@MARYLAND.GOV).

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This memo seeks to clarify information that should be shared with individuals and families related to Medicaid eligibility, Waiver eligibility, and Special Needs Trusts.

Resource coordinators may share general information regarding Medicaid and Waiver eligibility and processes (e.g. which application to use, where to submit the application, etc.) and Special Needs Trusts (e.g. what they are, organizations to contact for assistance, etc.) but not to advise individuals or their representatives about eligibility requirements or requirements to spend down funds to qualify for a waiver program. Individual specific circumstances and questions should be directed to State Medicaid staff or an attorney for advice.

Public information regarding Medicaid eligibility and benefits can be found on the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's website at:  
<https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/Medicaid%20Eligibility%20and%20Benefits.aspx>.

For questions regarding community Medicaid eligibility, individuals and families should be referred to the Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) for their county of residence or the eligibility worker associated with their application.

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Public information regarding Home and Community-Based Waiver Programs can be found on the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's website at:

<https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/waiverprograms/SitePages/Home.aspx>.

Public information regarding the Community Pathways Waiver Program can be found on the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's website at:

<http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/community%20pathways.aspx>.

Individuals and families should be referred to DHMH Eligibility Determination Division (EDD) eligibility worker regarding questions concerning their application or eligibility for Community Pathways.

Public information regarding Special Needs Trusts (e.g. Planning Now: A Future and Estate Planning Guide for Families of Children and Adults with Developmental Disabilities) can be found on the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council [website at: http://www.md-council.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/PlannGuide-v10\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.md-council.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/PlannGuide-v10_FINAL.pdf).