



Department on Disability Services

DDS (JM)

MISSION

The mission of the Department on Disability Services (DDS) is to provide innovative high quality services that enable people with disabilities to lead meaningful and productive lives as vital members of their families, schools, workplaces and communities in every neighborhood in the District of Columbia.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

The Department on Disability Services (DDS) is composed of two administrations that oversee and coordinate services for residents with disabilities through a network of private and non-profit providers. The Developmental Disabilities Administration ensures that residents with developmental disabilities receive the services and supports they need to lead self-determined and valued lives in the community. The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) focuses on employment, ensuring that persons with disabilities achieve a greater quality of life by obtaining and sustaining employment, economic self-sufficiency, and independence.

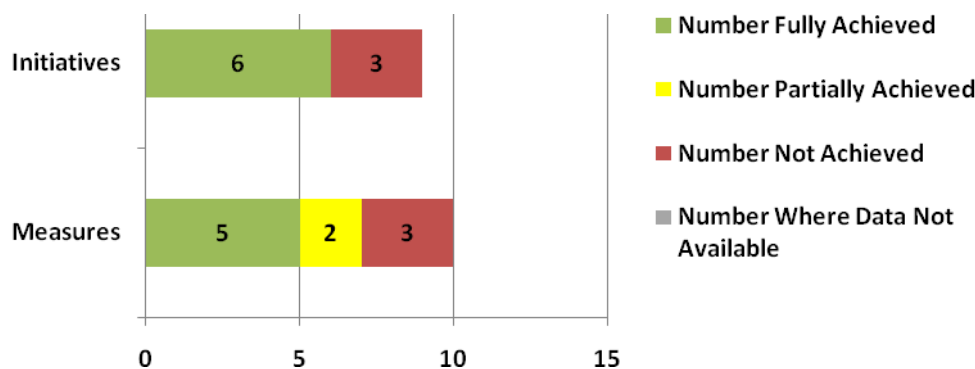
AGENCY OBJECTIVES

1. Enable individuals with developmental disabilities to maximize their independence and exercise meaningful choice and control over their own lives.
2. Promote the health and wellness of people with developmental disabilities.
3. Increase the employment and economic independence of individuals with disabilities.

3 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Expanded the Medicaid Waiver services to cover over 1,200 people, up from 819 in 2006.
- ✓ Moved over 200 people with disabilities into home and community-based care from ICF/MR facilities.
- ✓ Helped 576 individuals in the vocational rehabilitation program, obtain and maintain employment for at least 90 days

OVERVIEW OF AGENCY PERFORMANCE





Performance Initiatives – Assessment Details

Performance Assessment Key:

- Fully achieved Partially achieved Not achieved Data not reported

OBJECTIVE 1: Enable individuals with developmental disabilities to maximize their independence and exercise meaningful choice and control over their own lives.

- INITIATIVE 1.1: Offer improved choices by expanding supports for persons living in more independent homes or apartments in FY08 under the Medicaid Waiver.**
Fully Achieved. DDS rewrote the Medicaid Waiver to allow for increased options, specifically expanding waiver services to supportive living, host homes, in-home supports and live-in caregivers. It conducted a pilot to move 75 individuals from ICFMR's into their own homes. In total DDS increased the number of Waiver recipients from 1000 in FY07 to 1242 in FY08, a ~24% increase. For the first time in District history, in FY08 more DDA clients received supports in small community based settings than ICFMRs.
- INITIATIVE 1.2: Recruit and retain providers that have a demonstrated history of providing excellent service in the field of developmental disabilities.**
Fully Achieved. DDS streamlined its provider recruitment process and awarded Human Care Agreements to 23 newly recruited residential providers, compared to the target of 10 newly recruited providers. DDS did not need to provide time-limited funding to newly recruited Medicaid providers, as they did not need start up support.
- INITIATIVE 1.3: Collaborate with the DC Medicaid program, providers and others to assure that payment rates for ICFMR group homes providers will ensure their capability to provide high quality services and supports.**
Fully Achieved. To ensure that ICFMR group homes and other providers were financially viable and provided critical services, DDS implemented (1) a cost of living adjustment of ~19% for ICFMRs and (2) included a rate increase in the Medicaid Waiver. Two providers left the district before the rate increases were implemented.

OBJECTIVE 2: Promote the health and wellness of people with developmental disabilities.

- INITIATIVE 2.1: Improve services and supports to consumers by ensuring 100% of providers are successfully certified through Basic Assurances by the end of FY08.**
Fully Achieved. All disability service providers passed the BASA in FY08. However, only 21% of providers passed on the first review (short of the 80% goal on passing the BASA at first review) and the remainder required 2-3 trials in order to pass. No providers closed as a result of failing the BASA.
- INITIATIVE 2.2: Ensure the timely delivery of health care to individuals by reducing the time between identification of persons in need of a health care guardian and court appointment of that guardian in FY08.**
Fully Achieved. DDS established a process to expedite guardianship appointments in emergencies (3 days for appointment) and urgent matters (10 days for appointment). Five individuals had an emergency guardian authorized to make health care decisions, one individual had a health care guardian appointed, and DDS filed requests for five expedited guardianship hearings. Outside these cases, the time required for regular



guardianship appointments did not decrease significantly. Concurrently, DDS conducted trainings around current legal requirement for substitute health-care decision making.

● **INITIATIVE 2.3: Expand the Physician Extender Pilot Project.**

Not Achieved. DDS was unable to expand the Physician Extender Pilot Project because it was unable to find providers who desired to participate in the program.

OBJECTIVE 3: Increase the employment and economic independence of individuals with disabilities.

● **INITIATIVE 3.1: Increase the number of persons with disabilities who receive the supports necessary to obtain and maintain employment in integrated settings and earn a living wage.**

Not Achieved. In FY08 RSA provided work adjustment training, vocational training and support services such as assistive technology to help 576 individuals obtain and maintain employment for at least 90 days. This is approximately the same number of individuals who met this work goal in FY07.

● **INITIATIVE 3.2: Expand the opportunities available for youth with disabilities by ensuring that youth have employment plans in place upon graduation.**

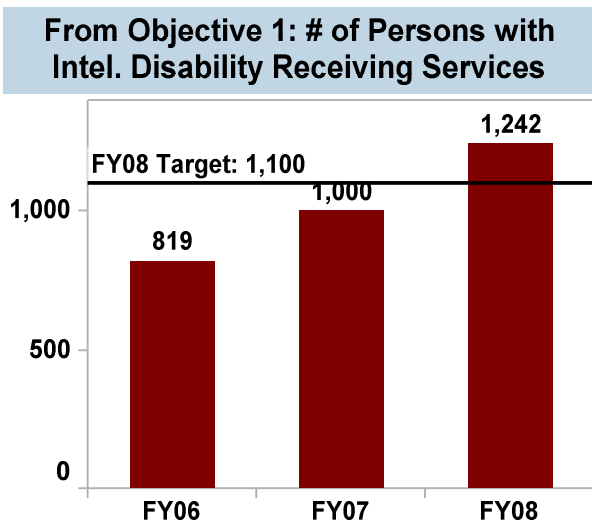
Fully Achieved. RSA conducted outreach to special education coordinators and workshops/outreach for students and parents to help prepare and implement IPEs. In FY 2008, RSA completed 104 IPE's for students compared to only 59 the previous year.

● **INITIATIVE 3.3: Increase the number of employment opportunities for persons with disabilities by expanding the Randolph Sheppard Vending Facility Program to include DC- government-based vending facilities.**

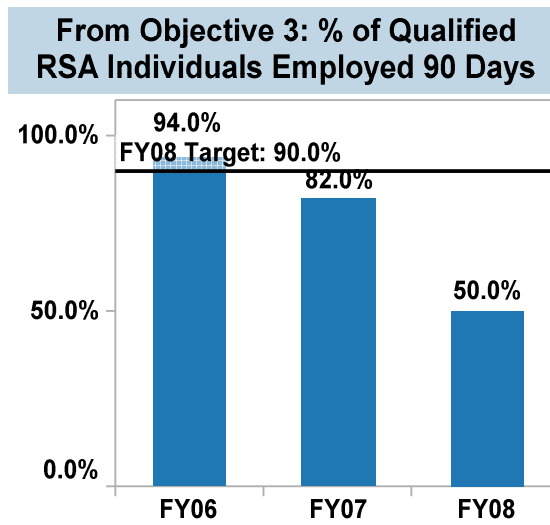
Not Achieved. RSA worked with vendors and Councilman Well's office to expand the Randolph Sheppard Vending Facility Program. No expansions to DC-government-based vending facilities were completed in FY08 because the facilities targeted for program expansion were not successfully brought into the program.



Key Performance Indicators – Highlights




FULLY ACHIEVED


NOT ACHIEVED


More About These Indicators:

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- Led provider and staff trainings on the benefits of the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waiver.
- Recruited new, highly qualified Waiver providers.
- Moved individuals from out-of-state placements back into the District.
- Created a new Individual Service Plan (ISP) process that is person-centered.

What external factors influenced this indicator?

- Individual choice of whether to move from an ICF/MR to a waiver-supported setting.
- Limited funding to support housing costs and the Waiver match.

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- Increased outreach to employers and schools, including special education coordinators and parents.
- Studied market trends: established an Employer Advisory Committee to understand market trends and worked with the National Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) to obtain technical assistance.
- Established a job bank to match jobs with people's skills.

What external factors influenced this indicator?

- The weakening job market.
- Gap between client skill sets and employer needs.
- Clients' reluctance to seek employment due to requirement to leave social security rolls.



Key Performance Indicators – Details

Performance Assessment Key:

● Fully achieved
 ● Partially achieved
 ● Not achieved
 ● Data not reported

	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08 Target	FY08 Actual	FY09 Projection
OBJECTIVE 1: Enable individuals with developmental disabilities to maximize their independence and exercise meaningful choice and control over their own lives.					
● Total DDS Population.	12,205	8,572	7,643	8,823	7,643
● # of persons with an intellectual disability receiving services in the Medicaid Home and Community Based Program	819	1,000	1,100	1,242	1,555
● % of people who report that service coordinators help them get what they need.	N/A	N/A	75%	80%	85%
OBJECTIVE 2: Promote the health and wellness of people with developmental disabilities.					
● % of providers passing the BASA on the first review	N/A	38%	70%	21%	85%
● # of providers who close as a result of BASA.	N/A	0	3	0	2
● # of new providers recruited to the District.	N/A	6	10	20	2
● % of persons served by DDA who have their required annual medical exams.	100%	100%	100%	96%	100%
OBJECTIVE 3: Increase the employment and economic independence of individuals with disabilities.					
● % of eligibility determinations (vocational rehabilitation) completed within 60 days.	74%	71%	80%	64%	85%
● % of qualified RSA individuals employed for 90 days	94%	82%	90%	50%	90%
● # of Randolph Sheppard vending sites.	42	41	40	40	40