



# Georgetown UCEDD Transition Plan

Dear Community Member:

I am writing to address the confusion over the end of the contract DDS has had with the Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). Over recent weeks, people have expressed concern that health and wellness services for people with intellectual disabilities will end. This is absolutely not true. DDS has a detailed transition plan for every service and support that the Georgetown UCEDD currently provides, which I am sharing below. DDS is committed to providing high quality services that enable people with disabilities to lead meaningful and productive lives as vital members of communities in every neighborhood in the District of Columbia. We appreciate all of the work that Georgetown has done in partnership with DDS over the years to build capacity and strengthen our system.

—Andrew Reese, Director

## 1. Consultations for People with Complex Needs

### Part A: Clinical Consultations for Complex Needs

DDS has a contract with MOTIR, a certified business enterprise (CBE), for a physician who graduated from Howard University, completed post-graduate training at Georgetown University and Providence Hospital. He brings experience in community-based care and working with people with ID and people with complex care needs in their homes. The contract will begin July 22, 2019, and this timing will enable the MOTIR physician to work with Georgetown, ensuring a smooth transition.

### Part B: Transition Consultations

DDS has a Nurse Practitioner who currently serves as a transition specialist. Her responsibilities are being adjusted and in the future she will manage all hospital and long term acute care facilities transitions, whether a person is moving to a stepped-down level of care (such as a rehabilitation care facility) or returning home. She brings experience in community-based care, hospital transitions and working with people with ID.

## 2. Parent Education & Support

Since DDS's HCBS waiver renewal in November 2017, DDS has included parenting supports as a waiver service. People have a choice of providers. Presently there are seven providers, each of which provides either professional or peer services.

## 3. Health Promotion

Health promotion covers a number of services, including fitness, nutrition, sexuality education and more. Sexuality education has been available through the HCBS IDD waiver since 2017, and there are seven providers that provide this particular service.

## 4. Developmental Disabilities Nursing Standards

DDS's State Office of Policy Planning & Innovation (SOPPI) has hired a Registered Nurse (Master of Science in Nursing/MSN) with experience as a nurse educator who has trained nurses and support staff and the start date is August 5, 2019—our new staff member has 10 years of experience in nursing, seven working with people with Intellectual Disabilities (ID), including the most recent three years under the DDA Health Initiative, is a Trained Medication Employee (TME) Master Trainer, a Person-Centered Thinking Trainer for nurses.

## 5. Dissemination of Best Practices

DDS and Georgetown have agreed that Georgetown will provide DDS all documents on the DDA Health Initiative website, which DDS now will make available on its website, appropriately credited to Georgetown. The new SOPPI nurse educator will be responsible for continuously updating these materials with innovative and evidence-based best practices.

The Nursing Roundtables will continue, with DDS

# DDS/Georgetown UCEDD Transition Plan

nurse educators leading this monthly meeting starting with the September 2019 roundtable.

## 6. Trauma Informed Care

DDS is working with two subject matter experts in Person-Centered Thinking (PCT) and trauma informed care to integrate training for providers to uses PCT tools and skills to create a healing environment for people who have experienced trauma. We will launch this year-long initiative on September 12th at the Direct Support Professionals conference. We also will be working with providers that are Person-Centered Organizations and working on trauma informed care to advise on curriculum development.

One of the experts has worked as a clinician in the field of intellectual disabilities for over 25 years. She has a Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Psychology from the University of Maryland. She consults with various state and individual agencies throughout the United States and Canada, as well as trains staff, administrators and clinicians on trauma-informed care. This expert has over 22 years of experience working as a licensed clinical social worker with expertise in direct practice with adults with developmental and cognitive disabilities. She is a certified PCT trainer, a mentor for PCT trainer candidates, and is an officer on the Board of Directors for the International Learning Community for Person Centered Practices.

## 7. Mortality Review

Beginning in September 2019, the MOTIR physician will review mortality investigations and participate in regular mortality review meetings. homes and apartments, and, for families supporting a loved one at home, DDA also provides support services such as temporary relief for the family, in-home and community support, emergency response systems, and home and vehicle modification assistance.

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The Department on Disability Services welcomes the continued engagement of community members as we continue our efforts to provide quality supports to people with disabilities. For more information about this transition plan, please contact Crystal Thomas, Program Manager, at [crystal.thomas2@dc.gov](mailto:crystal.thomas2@dc.gov).

