



DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
Olympia, Washington

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TITLE: REDIRECTION OF SAVINGS TO POLICY 6.22  
COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

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Authority: RCW 71A.10.011; 71A.10.015; 71A.16; 71A.18.040  
Chapter 275-31 WAC

**BACKGROUND**

"The Legislature recognizes that the emphasis of state developmental disabilities services is shifting from institutional-based care to community services in an effort to increase the personal and social independence and fulfillment of persons with developmental disabilities, consistent with state policy as expressed in RCW 71A.10.015. It is the intent of the Legislature that financial savings achieved from program reductions and efficiencies within the developmental disabilities program shall be redirected within the program to provide public or private community-based services for eligible persons who would otherwise be unidentified or unserved" (Laws of 1995, Chapter 383 Section 1, effective 1995 amending Chapter 71A.10 RCW).

RCW 71A.10.011 (SSB 5800) is the Legislature's affirmation that people with developmental disabilities lead more independent and fulfilling lives in the community than they do in institutions. Accordingly, the law directs reinvestment of any savings in the developmental disabilities program to the expansion of community services, in particular to eligible people who are unserved or unidentified.

**SCOPE**

This policy applies to the division's budget in its entirety.

**PURPOSE**

This policy describes the necessary conditions and procedures for the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) to implement RCW 71A.10.011. This addition to the RCW gives the program the authority to request from the Legislature the reallocation of financial savings from program reductions and efficiencies for use in increasing access to community-based services for qualified individuals who are classified as "unserved" or "unidentified."

**POLICY**

To implement RCW 71A.10.011, DDD will:

- A. Regularly monitor and evaluate financial savings at the division level in the "Quarterly Key Outcome Objectives and Indicators Report," presented to the Office of the Secretary at fiscal program meetings;
- B. During the regular and special legislative sessions, request from the Legislature the reallocation of financial savings within the division to provide community supports and services to individuals who are unserved or unidentified; and
- C. Increase access to community services for individuals who are unserved or unidentified.

**CRITERIA**

- A. Savings must meet the criteria of financial savings.
- B. Savings are achieved within the intent of the legislative appropriation.
- C. Services provided must go to people who are unserved or unidentified.
- D. Savings generated from permanent reductions in Residential Habilitation Centers (RHC) census (i.e., downsizing) shall be first used to fund an appropriate level and quality of services for individuals leaving the RHCs under the Program Options Plan (RCW 71A.18.040). Any savings remaining after these services are funded will be used to provide community services for individuals who are unserved or unidentified.

**DEFINITIONS**

- A. **"Community-Based Service"** (Appropriation Category 1000) means a paid service that provides supports for individuals and their families, in a person's home or community; to assist those individuals in gaining access to the everyday activities, routines and relationships common to most citizens. Those services may include, but are not limited to, employment supports, day programs, family supports, personal care, early intervention, and residential supports.
- B. **"Financial Savings"** means:
1. Dollars saved in specific appropriation categories either through program reductions, efficiencies, cost containment, and/or cost avoidance and are expected to last through the biennium or longer; and
  2. Those funds available to the division after covering any shortfalls within the overall division appropriation for the fiscal period.
- C. **"Institutional-Based Care"** (Appropriation Category 2000) means residential or habilitative services that are provided in RHCs.
- D. **"Unidentified"** means those individuals or families who are not enrolled and would be eligible for enrollment in DDD under Chapter 71A.16 RCW.
- E. **"Unserved"** means those individuals who have been identified by DDD and are listed by case management as enrolled and through assessments or individual planning have demonstrated the need for supports.

**SUPERSESSION**

None

Approved: /s/ Norm Davis Date: 7/15/1996  
Director, Division of Developmental Disabilities