

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES Developmental Disabilities Administration

PO Box 45050, Olympia, WA 98504-5050

December 18, 2015

TO: Developmental Disabilities Administration Stakeholders

FROM: Evelyn Perez, Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Governor's Proposed Budget released December 17, 2015

Yesterday Governor Inslee released his proposed 2016 supplemental budget. We were pleased to see a budget that reflects a commitment to fair and equitable pay for Individual Providers who provide personal care services to aged and vulnerable clients, and increased options for planned respite at Yakima Valley School. The Legislature will convene on January 11, and will produce budget proposals from each house before a final budget is enacted in the spring.

You can find detailed information about the budget on the Legislative Evaluation & Accountability Program (LEAP) <u>website</u>.

Highlights from the Governor's 2016 Supplemental budget proposal that impact DDA include:

- **IP Overtime**: Beginning April 1, 2016, Individual Provider homecare workers will be paid overtime wages when working over 40 hours per week. (\$8.5M GF-S; \$18.7M Total Funds)
- **IP Informal Supports:** As of April 1, 2016, hours previously assessed as non-paid informal support hours provided by Individual Providers will be authorized as paid service hours. (\$8.9M GF-S; \$20.1M Total Funds)
- **Planned Respite:** Beginning July 2016, eight new respite beds for planned stays will be added to Yakima Valley School. This service is intended to provide families with a break in caregiving, the opportunity for behavioral stabilization of the individual, and the ability to develop an individualized service plan to enable individuals to remain in community settings. (\$834,000 GF-S; \$1.7M Total Funds)
- Utilization of Residential Services The forecasted cost of providing community residential services, including Adult Supported Living, Child Supported Living, Group Homes, Community Protection, and Intermediate Care for the Intellectually Disabled, is increased for this biennium. (\$15.8M GF-S; \$31.2M Total Funds)

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If you have questions regarding the Governor's 2016 Supplemental Budget, please contact Luisa Parada-Estrada at (360) 725-3469 or <u>ParadLA@dshs.wa.gov</u>

This is an exciting time for all of us as we move forward in providing supports and services in the community and RHCs. Thank you for the work you do to achieve the best possible outcomes for our clients.