



New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Central Registry/ Waiting List

FACT SHEET

- Over 5,800 children and adults with developmental disabilities, such as Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and autism, are waiting for community services funded by the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD). DDSD is the primary state agency that funds community services and supports for people with developmental disabilities and their families in New Mexico.
- Each year approximately 1000 people apply for services; about 300 are found eligible and added to the list. This year about 50 people will be taken off the waiting list and will start receiving services, thanks to \$1M appropriation by State Legislature.
- Community services include family support, respite, employment & residential programs, and other individualized supports that assist adults with significant disabilities with all aspects of daily living and help families care for their children with disabilities at home.
- People on DDSD's Central Registry are placed in order of the date they applied for services. When funding is available, people are selected based on their date of application and/or emergency and crisis needs. The wait now is over 8 years.
- Every county in New Mexico has people waiting for DDSD community services.
- Here is a scary projection: If we assume that 50 people will be taken off the waiting list each year it will take over 100 years to address the needs of the 5800 people currently waiting.
- The Central Registry is projected to increase to over 8,000 people by 2016 if nothing is done and all factors of growth, spending and appropriations remain the same.
- People with developmental disabilities need supports to live dignified lives. Families worry how much longer they can hold on.

NEW MEXICO DISABILITY COALITION

Fact Sheet Prepared by: The Arc of New Mexico & **New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council* September 2011**