



# BDI

illuminating the possibilities in ~~dis~~abilities

Needed Services

Transition and  
Futures Planning

# Thank you to our partners



[www.theadmh.org](http://www.theadmh.org)



<https://dph.georgia.gov/women-and-children>

# Introduction

- Anna.Maki@bobbydodd.org
- Director, Benefits Navigation
- Professional background includes JD (UGA!) and Masters in Clinical Counseling
- My Inspiration:



# Learning Outcomes

- Identify must-do's for transition and futures planning:
  - Know the Agencies
  - Know the Services
    - Family Support Services
    - NOW/COMP planning list
    - Social Security
    - GVRA services
  - Futures planning:
    - Guardianship
    - Supplemental Needs Trust
    - ABLE accounts
    - Letter of Intent



# A Parent's Worry...

- Our goal: protect our child's future
- Every disabled adult needs:
  - Income
  - Health Insurance
  - Services





# The Agencies

- Department of Education
- Department of Community Health
  - Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- Department of Labor
- Social Security



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# Family Support

- <http://dbhdd.georgia.gov/family-support-services>
- Family Support Services are primarily brokered services through a contracted DBHDD provider
- Every county has a Family Support Services provider
- BDI is the only intensive Family Support provider
- Eligibility requirements:
  - Must have documented, eligible developmental/intellectual disability
  - Upcoming requirement is placement on the NOW/COMP planning list



# Family Support Services

- Primarily Social, Recreation and Community Integration
  - Summer Camp programs
  - Social skills development programs
  - Programs promoting health and fitness
  - Social Clubs
- Community Living Support
  - Requires additional documentation requirements for Independent Contractor
- Community Access Group
  - Allows provider to assist in paying day habilitative programs
- Specialized Medical Supplies/Incontinence Supplies





# Medicaid Waivers

- Different waivers for different needs...
  - Deeming Waiver
  - Elderly and Disabled Waiver
  - Georgia Pediatric Program (GAPP)
  - Community Care Services Program (CCSP)
  - Independent Care Waiver (ICWP)
  - NOW/COMP Waiver
    - 6500 waitlist
    - “Most in Need”



# NOW/COMP Waiver



- <https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/be-compassionate/how-do-i-apply-dd-services>
- Application process
  - Intake/Assessment
  - Award of funding
  - Other assessments (SIS, HRST)
  - Individual Support Plan
- Most common services
  - Community Access Group (day programs)
  - Community Access Individual
  - Community Living Supports
  - Community Residential Alternative
    - Group and Host Homes
  - Behavioral Supports
  - Supported Employment
  - Specialized Medical Supplies



# Social Security



- SSI versus SSDI
  - SSI: needs-based/Medicaid
  - SSDI: entitlement/Medicare
- Medical determination is the same for both programs
- Use Blue Book to understand documentation requirements
- Process:
  - Apply online
  - Intake
  - Medical Adjudication

# Social Security



- 1/3 reduction rule if subsidized (living at home)
- How to increase SSI:
  - Rental agreement
  - SSA supplement agreement
  - Demonstrate fair share
  - Show proof of payment
- ABLE account – subsidize without unearned income

# Work Incentives

- Student Earned Income Exclusion
- IRWE: Impairment Related Work Exclusion
- Ticket to Work
- 1619b exemption
- PASS





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## Did you know?

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- Protect Medicaid status from Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver by submitting copy of SSI application to the unit office – will extend Medicaid until SSI approved or age 19.

# GVRA

- Interested in work? You need GVRA...
- Intake process typically includes work evaluation
- Service plan based on your needs
  - Supported/Customized employment
  - Personal/Social Adjustment
  - Transportation
- Work Incentive programs
  - Ticket to Work
  - PASS





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## Did you know?

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- Turning 14 is a threshold year as individuals become eligible for Transition Planning through the school, and can open a file with GVRA for pre employment training services.





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## Georgia Community Trust

- Georgia Community Trust was founded by Ridgeview Institute
  - Transferred to AADD in 2015; transitioned to BDI in 2018
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Trusts
  - Trusts provide a “safe harbor” to protect assets and meet the future needs of the beneficiary without losing eligibility for public benefit programs
- Pooled trust helps to reduce administrative costs
- Approximately 12.6 million in pooled funds





## Need more info?

- For services, apply online at [www.bobbydodd.org](http://www.bobbydodd.org)
- Contact me at [anna.maki@bobbydodd.org](mailto:anna.maki@bobbydodd.org)  
404-809-2957



Questions?



*Thank you!*