

**STATE OF VERMONT**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUEST**  
**DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING**

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**Department Mission Statement**

The Department's mission is to make Vermont the best state in the nation in which to grow old or live with a disability, with dignity, respect and independence.

**Description of Appropriations, Divisions, & Programs**

*The Department has five major divisions that contribute to achieving the mission.*

\* **The Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DBVI)** provides and oversees specialized services for people who are visually impaired using a rehabilitation model that starts when the person experiences vision loss. DBVI offers an array of services specifically designed for people who have lost visual function and independence. DBVI's mission is to support the efforts of Vermonters who are blind or visually impaired to achieve or sustain their economic independence, self-reliance, and social integration at a level consistent with their interests, abilities and informed choices. The goal of DBVI's vocational vision rehabilitation services is to help people with vision loss to retain, return, or secure employment. DBVI transition services provide youth with opportunities for learning independent living, job skills, or support for higher education. When employment is not a feasible goal, DBVI provides assistance in maintaining independence.

\* **Adult Services Division (ASD)** is responsible for long-term services and supports for older Vermonters and adults with physical disabilities. This includes management of the Choices for Care (CFC) High and Highest Needs program, the Moderate Needs (CFC) program, the Money Follows the Person (MFP) project, the Attendant Services Program, Adult High Tech, Adult Day Services, Aging & Disabilities Resource Connections and other related contracts and grants. ASD is also responsible for management of the Vermont State Plan on Aging and all Older American's Act (OAA) related services. ASD works with private organizations to provide a broad array of long term services and supports, including: residential support, community support, case management, family supports, respite, assistance with activities of daily living, assistive technology, nursing home level of care, rehabilitation services, support to live at home, information and referral, and personal care.

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**\*Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD)** is responsible for services to people with developmental disabilities, and guardianship services to adults with developmental disabilities and older Vermonters. The DDSD works with private non-profit organizations to provide a broad array of long term services and supports, including: service coordination, family supports, community supports, employment supports, residential support, crisis support, clinical interventions and respite. The DDSD supports Vermonters with developmental disabilities to make choices about how and where they live, pursuing their individual goals and preferences within their chosen communities. In partnership with our community provider system, the DDSD seeks to ensure basic human and civil rights, health, and well-being and safety for individuals with developmental disabilities. The DDSD provides effective leadership for disability policy and services in Vermont, and meets federal and state mandates by developing and managing public resources effectively.

**\* The Division of Licensing and Protection (DLP)** performs a critical role in ensuring the quality of many health care services and protecting vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect and exploitation. Major programs in DLP include: Survey and Certification which conducts inspections and surveys of all Medicare and Medicaid facilities and organizations including nursing home and home health agencies, state licensure of residential care homes and other facilities, and Adult Protective Services which investigates allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation against vulnerable adults.

**\* The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)** assists Vermonters with a disability to enter or re-enter the work force through a wide variety of programs and individual support services. The core program (VR Section 110) enables Vermonters with a disability to assess their skills and abilities, identify a vocational goal, develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) and receive services leading to meaningful employment. VR invests heavily in services for people with the most significant disabilities through supported employment programs. The U.S. Congress reauthorized the Rehabilitation Act via the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act in 2014 and required VR to substantially expand services to high school students with IEPs or eligible for 504 plans. The Division operates a statewide Benefits Counseling Program to support Social Security beneficiaries to find work; and the Assistive Technology (AT) Project that provides Vermonters with information and training on AT devices and services.

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**DAIL OVERVIEW FOR BAA-**

**Total Net Increase for BAA (all gross \$'s) \$ 4,466,712**

This includes:

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|---|--------------|
| 1) AHS GF Budget Neutral items (no request for funding) | \$ 3,510,214 |
| 2) Nurse Classification Study (32 positions)            | \$ 956,498   |
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**DAIL Administration**

Personal Services:

- Nurse Classification Study (Pay Grade and Market Factor adjustments for (32 positions) \$ 956,498
- Total adjustments in this section **\$ 956,498**
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**DAIL Grants (Division of Disabilities and Aging Services**

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|---|-------------------|
| 1. 2% increase approved last legislative session for Area Agencies on Aging (transfer from AHS-CO/AHS budget neutral) | \$ 188,803        |
| 2. 2% increase approved last legislative session for Adult Day (transfer from AHS-CO/AHS budget neutral)              | \$ 32,563         |
| Total adjustments in this section   | <b>\$ 221,366</b> |
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**DBVI Grants** (Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired)

– No adjustments requested.

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**Vocational Rehabilitation Grants** (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation)

– No adjustments requested.

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**Developmental Services (DS)**

1) 2% increase to DA approved last legislative session (transfer from AHS-DMH/AHS budget neutral)	\$ 373,921
2) Transfer to DMH for ARCH - AHS budget neutral	\$ (252,756)
3) Unallocated DS for rescission plan (budget neutral as this is already approved last spring)	\$ (797,416)
Total adjustments in this section	\$ (676,251)

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**Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Home and Community Based  
Waiver –**

- No adjustments requested
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**Choices for Care 1115 Waiver – LTC**

1) 2% increase CFC – H&CB rates approved last legislative session (AHS Budget Neutral)	\$1,091,216
2) Carry forward funds from SFY16 into SFY17 (AHS Budget Neutral – transfer from AHS-CO)	\$ 2,873,883
Total adjustments in this section	\$ 3,965,099

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As part of DAIL's BAA presentation for Choices for Care, as required by language in the Big Bill, below is detail on our plan to reinvest the \$802,621 in savings from SFY16:

- 1) \$481,573 will be allocated to Moderate Needs providers  
(AAA, Adult Day and Home Health Agencies)
- 2) \$321,048 increase to Enhanced Residential Care (ERC) rates