



**The Arc.**

Virginia

*Achieve with us.*

# *Update on the Redesign of Virginia's I/DD Waiver Program*

Presentation to the Senate Finance Health and Human Resources Subcommittee

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# *The Arc of Virginia*

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## *Who We Are:*

- Statewide organization for people with I/DD. Serve as state chapter of The Arc of US, oldest and largest organization for people w/ I/DD in country.
- Comprised of 25 local chapters around the Commonwealth, whose members include people with I/DD, family members, advocates and concerned citizens.
- Collectively, we provide individual and family support to thousands of Virginians with I/DD and their families.
- The Arc of Virginia advocates on behalf of all people with I/DD, regardless of age, diagnosis or complexity of support needs. This includes those who live in the community, as well as those in institution.

# History of The Arc

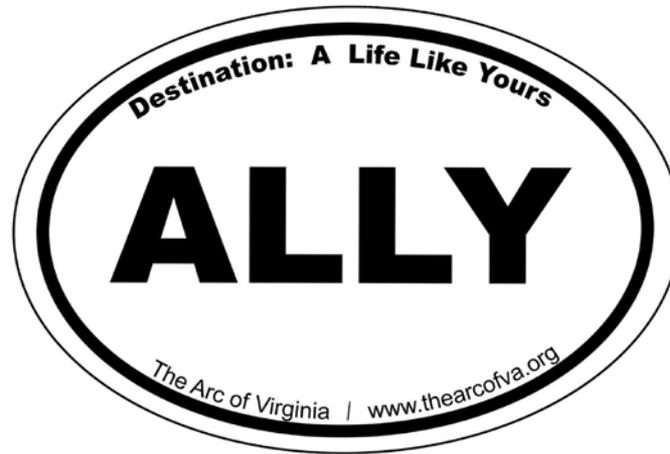
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## *The Arc Movement:*

We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us.

# What do people with I/DD want?



*"A Life Like Yours"*



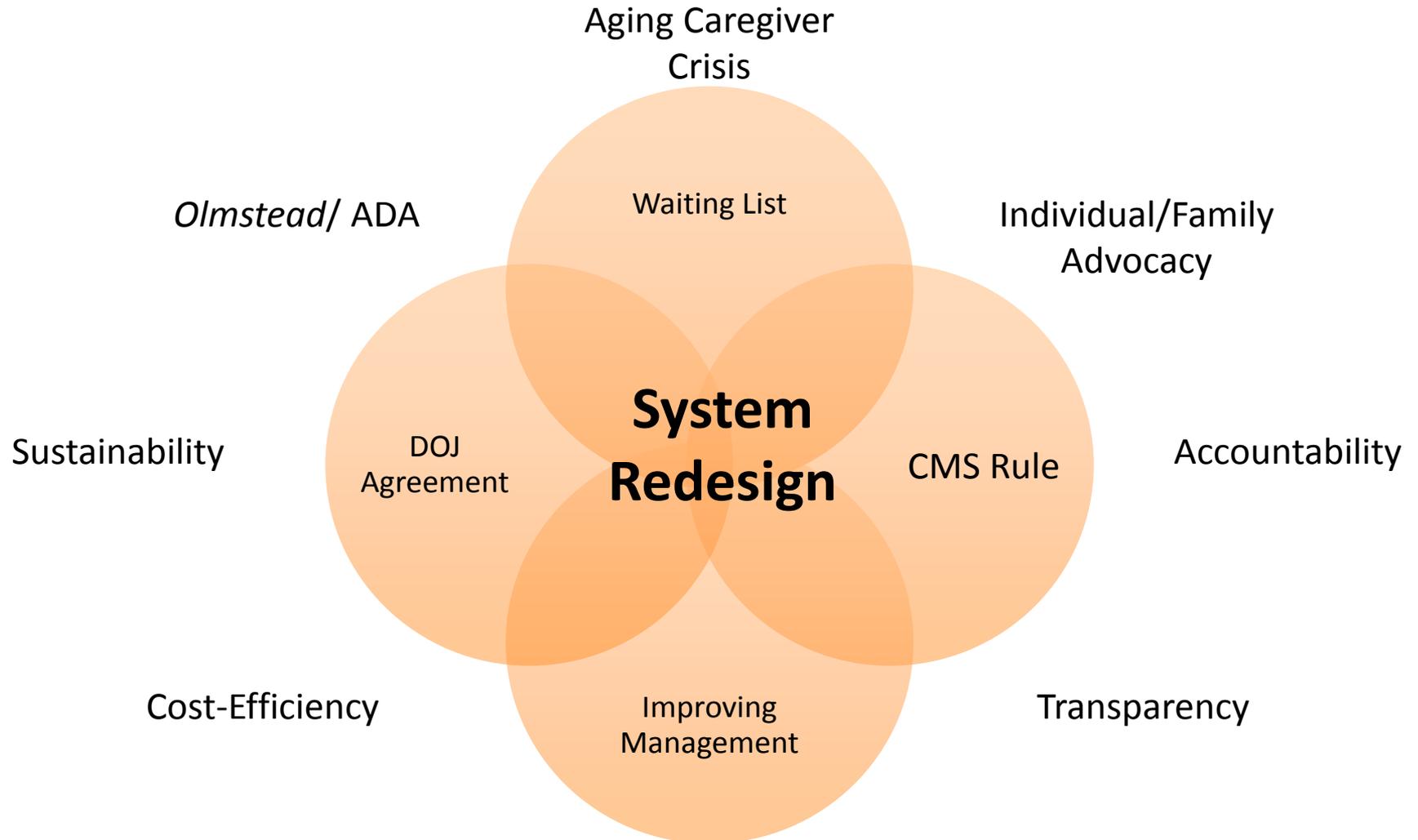
A home, a job, a life...in the community!

## *Factors Influencing I/DD Waiver Redesign*

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- Individual/Family Concerns re: I/DD Waiver Program
- The I/DD Waiver Waiting List Crisis
- U.S. v Virginia Consent Decree
- New CMS Rule re: HCBS Services
- Olmstead/ADA Enforcement in Other States
- Sustainability of I/DD Service System

# ID/DD System Redesign



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*Where does Virginia currently stand?*

# *Virginia's Ranking for Inclusion*

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49<sup>th</sup>

UCP Case for Inclusion, 2014

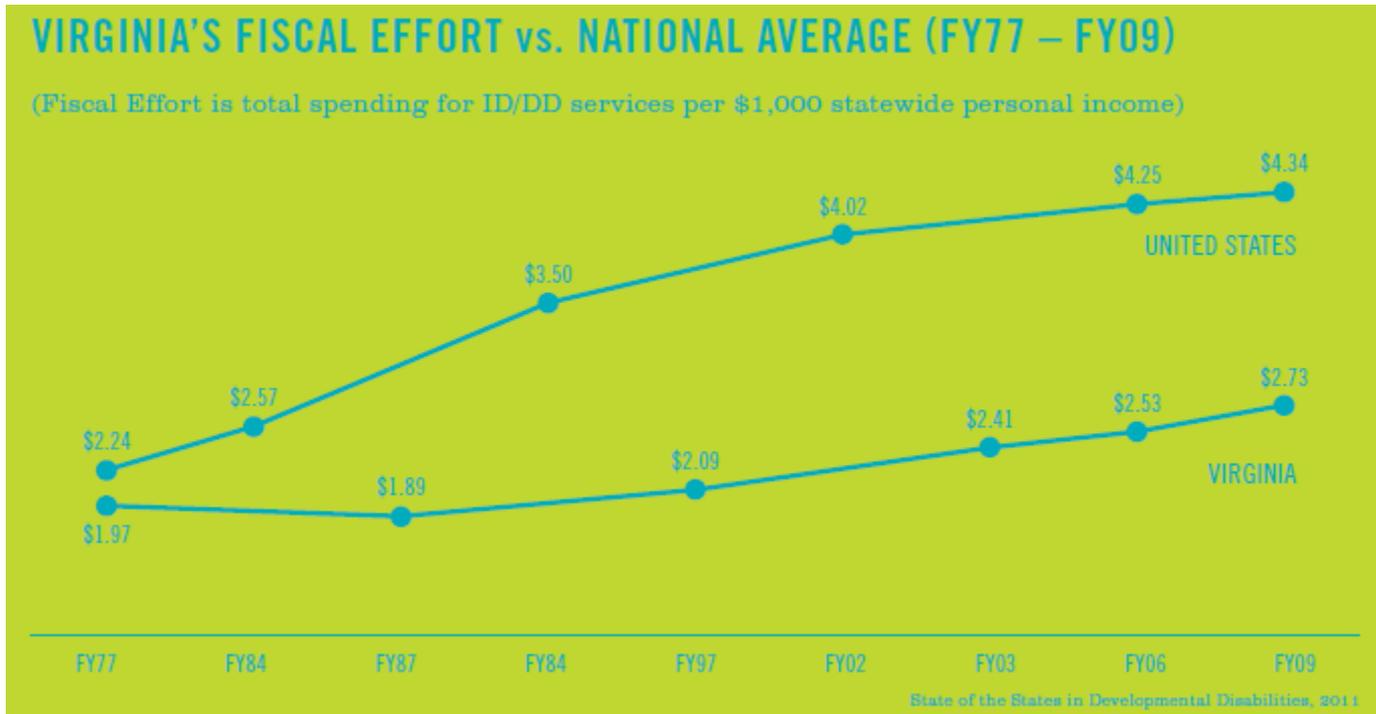
# *Virginia's Ranking for Family Support*

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50<sup>th</sup>

*Based on Number of Families Supported Per 100K*  
State of the States in Developmental Disabilities, 2015

# Virginia's Fiscal Effort vs. National Average



# I/DD Waiver Waiting Lists

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	ID Waiver	DD Waiver
<b>Total Slots</b>	<b>10,192</b>	<b>1,013</b>
Urgent Waitlist	4,687	
Non-Urgent Waitlist	3,022	
<b>Total Waitlist</b>	<b>7,709</b>	<b>1,712</b>

I/DD Combined Total Waitlist: **9,421**

## *Themes:*

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- Focus on integrated services (supported living, competitive employment, etc)
- Quality community supports for people with complex medical/behavioral needs.
- Individual and family-centered supports that promote self-determination and family support.
- Prevent crisis and unnecessary institutionalization.
- Ensure most cost-effective use of limited state funds in order to address waiting list.
- Investment in community-based services will be needed.

## **Implementation will require partnership at all levels:**

- Individuals with I/DD
- Family Members
- Provider
- Case Managers
- Community Service Boards
- State Agencies
- Elected Officials

# *Current Challenges*

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- Lack of communication with people with I/DD and their families.
- Little information re: logistics and “real life impact” of implementation phase.
- Delayed implementation of rate structure. No “gap funding” in meantime.
- Lack of capacity building, training and technical assistance.
- Needs of individuals on I/DD Waiver Waiting Lists have not been identified.
- Little understanding about shift in I/DD system.

## *Unanswered Questions:*

- DBHDS has described a “base package” and then “add on services” for the Building Independence Waiver. The base package lacks many supports needed to live successfully in the community. What will be the process for people with I/DD and families to access “add on services”? Who is the gatekeeper? What is the appeal process?
- What protections will be put into place to ensure people do not get placed on a waiting list (or prohibited from accessing) a more robust Waiver when services are needed?
- How will the resource allocation process work? How can we pilot to ensure that people with I/DD will still have access to the services they need?
- How will Virginia ensure people with the most complex needs have access to support needed prior to implementation of new rate structure?

## *Unanswered Questions:*

- How will proposed changes be communicated to people with I/DD and their families receiving or waiting for community- based service?
- How will someone get the services they need if circumstances change quickly (i.e. death of a unpaid caregiver)?
- How will people be assured that they will still be able to get what they need if they move from a Comprehensive Waiver to Building Independence Waiver?

# *Recommendations: Current Budget*

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- Keep I/DD cost savings in the I/DD system.
- Fund additional I/DD Waivers for people with modest support needs.
- Use DBHDS Trust Fund to invest in capacity building and transition process.
- Require DBHDS to collect data on the I/DD Waiver waiting list population.
- Request additional details on logistics, process for accessing services.
- Move forward with infrastructure needed for individual budgeting.

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**Waiver Redesign is a HISTORIC and  
CRITICAL opportunity to advance ALLY  
and finally get it right.**

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*Thank You!*

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