Slide 1
Maryland Department of Health
The Joys and Pains of Working with a Disability
Developmental Disability Administration Advocacy Specialist Team
November 7, 2019

Slide 2
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Welcome

Slide 3
Objectives
• Employment today
• Navigating Challenges
• Managing stressors of the employment process
• Personal experiences working
• Resources

Slide 4
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Employment Today

Slide 5
What has changed?
People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities are:
• Obtaining Integrated or Competitive Employment
• Working in communities
• Developing more skills
• Making money

Slide 6
Employment Today
What has changed?
• Better business practices
• Quality of training
• Identification of Resources
• Development of Benchmarks and Outcomes
• Public Access on progress

Slide 7
Employment Today
Benefits
• Most people with disabilities said they like integrated or competitive employment better than being in a segregated or sheltered workshop
• Employers are learning about what great employees' people with disabilities can be!

Slide 8
Did you know that….
Maryland is an Employment First State!
The guiding principle of Employment First is that all people who want to work can work and contribute to their community when given opportunity, training, and supports that build upon their unique talents, skills and abilities

Slide 9
Did you know that….
The Special Options Eligible List (SOEL) allows for people with disabilities to be placed on the certified eligible list without having to compete in selection test.

To apply for the Special Options Eligible List (SOEL), visit the State of Maryland Job Openings page, and click on the Free names Applications link.

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Navigating Challenges
Managing Stressors of Employment

Slide 11
Are you worried about losing benefits if you go to work?
- Maryland’s Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) program allows individuals with disabilities to return to work and qualify for Medicaid (Medical Assistance) coverage.
- People have to pay to get health care from a Medicaid Buy-In program. But they do not have to pay a lot. Monthly premiums are either $0, $25, $40, or $55/month.
- To learn more visit mmcp.health.maryland.gov/eid/Pages/Home.aspx#What_is_the_EID_Program

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Navigating challenges: Transportation
- Transportation may not be dependable, however, you there are options for you.
- People who are DDA waiver eligible may receive transportation services based on assessed need.
- There are many accessible transportation options in the community.
- Travel training is also available.

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Navigating challenges: Transportation
- Paratransit programs are "origin to destination" services for people with disabilities who are not able to ride fixed-route public transportation.
- Contact The Maryland Department of Disabilities at Voice 410-767-3660 Toll Free/TTY/Voice 1-800-637-4113 or your local center for independent living to find out about the paratransit program in your community.

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Our Stories
Personal Experiences

Slide 15
Our work experiences
Our Stories
Sharing "Experiences" you "Experienced" in your life is a better "Experience" to "Experience." -- Gyan

Slide 16
Things you may want to explore
Resources

Slide 17
Resources
- People on the Go is a group of advocates with intellectual and developmental challenges who use their voices to be heard and recognized.
- They advocated to end subminimum wage in Maryland, amongst other things. The law is named for their Director of Public Policy, Ken Capone, as he demonstrates what people with disabilities can accomplish when they are presented with opportunities and support.

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Resources
- The Maryland Department of Disabilities offers fact sheets and other information designed for job seekers with disabilities, visit [mdod.maryland.gov](http://mdod.maryland.gov/).
- The Maryland State Department of Education's Division of Rehabilitation Services provides training and supports for eligible job seekers with disabilities. For more information and to apply, visit [dors.maryland.gov](http://dors.maryland.gov).

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**Resources**
- Job seekers with disabilities are encouraged to also register and identify job openings at the Maryland Workforce Exchange at [www.mwejobs.maryland.gov](http://www.mwejobs.maryland.gov).
- Maryland One Stop Career Centers provide a full range of services to help job seekers identify and apply for available jobs. For more information, visit [dllr.maryland.gov/county](http://dllr.maryland.gov/county/).

### Slide 20
**Resources**
- QUEST (Quality, Understanding, Excellence, Success and Training)
- In partnership with the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS), the QUEST Internship Program affords State agencies the opportunity to provide mentoring services for persons with disabilities.
- For more information visit: [dbm.maryland.gov/jobseekers/Pages/QUEST.aspx](http://dbm.maryland.gov/jobseekers/Pages/QUEST.aspx)

### Slide 21
**Resources**
- ABLE Accounts allow individuals who were disabled before age 27 to save up to $100,000 without jeopardizing SSI benefits.
- To learn more, visit the following websites:
  - [www.marylandable.org](http://www.marylandable.org)
  - ablenrc.org
  - [www.realeconomicimpact.org](http://www.realeconomicimpact.org)

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**Resources**
- Centers for Independent Living - The first Center for Independent Living (CIL) was started by people with physical disabilities in the 1970s.
- There are over 500 CILs across the country, including 7 in Maryland.
- CILs are peer-to-peer meaning that they are run by and for people with disabilities.
- CILs provide information and referral, independent living skills training, peer support and advocacy.
- To find your local CIL visit [www.msilc.org](http://www.msilc.org).

### Slide 23
**Advocacy Support Services**
**Regional Advocacy Specialist**

### Slide 24
**DDA Regional Advocacy Specialist**
**Region:**
- Central Region (CMRO)
  1401 Severn St, Suite 200, Baltimore, Maryland 21230
  Counties Served: Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Howard County
  Contact Information: Cheryl Gottlieb, cheryl.gottlieb@maryland.gov 410-234-8210
- Eastern Shore Region (ESRO)
  926 Snow Hill Road, Building 100, Salisbury, MD 21804
  Counties Served: Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties
  Contact Information: Cody Drinkwater, cody.drinkwater@maryland.gov 410-572-5949
• Southern Region (SMRO)
  312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 700, Laurel, Maryland 20707
  Counties Served: Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's and St. Mary's Counties
  Contact Information: Nicole LeBlanc, nicole.leblanc@maryland.gov (301) 362-5141
• Western Region (WMRO)
  1360 Marshall Street, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740
  Counties Served: Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett County, Washington Counties
  Contact Information: Jessica Stine, jessica.stine@maryland.gov 240-313-4225

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Questions
THANK YOU