

# SC DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

## What Parents Need to Know

Rhonda Mumford



# WHAT IS DDSN AND WHO DO WE SERVE?

SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) is the state agency that plans, develops, oversees and funds services for South Carolinians with severe, lifelong disabilities of

- ▶ intellectual disability
- ▶ autism spectrum disorder
- ▶ head injury, such as a traumatic brain injury
- ▶ spinal cord injury
- ▶ conditions similar or related to each of the above four disabilities.

# DDSN SERVICES CONTINUE FOR MANY YEARS AND STAGES OF LIFE



Schools serve students of specific ages. Agencies, like DDSN, serve people, regardless of age, for many years



WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE  
THROUGH DDSN?



# INDIVIDUAL SERVICES



A collage of various assistive technology devices, each with a handwritten label. The central title is "Assistive Technology 'HIGH' Tech Devices". The devices shown include:

- An "Electronic Wheelchair" (a blue and white motorized wheelchair).
- A "SMART Board" (a large interactive whiteboard on a stand).
- An "iPad/iPod" (a tablet device).
- A "Computer" (a desktop computer system with monitor, keyboard, and mouse).
- An "AAC Communication Device" (a person using a specialized communication device).

The collage is framed with a decorative border. At the bottom right, there is a small box with the text "The Autism Adventures of Room 83".

# FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES



# ADULT DAY SERVICES

Day Activity Services, Community Services, Support Center



# Employment Services: Group

# Employment Services: Individual



EMPLOYMENT SERVICES





# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



# PREVENTION AND GENETIC SERVICES



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF  
**Disabilities and Special Needs**

Why engage with DDSN now?

BECAUSE THE CHANGE FROM STUDENT  
TO AN ADULT IS A BIG TRANSITION



Dear Past,  
thank you for  
all the lessons.

Dear Future,  
I am ready!!!

InspirationBoost.com

What are  
the  
options  
after high  
school?

What do  
we need to  
do to get  
to that  
goal?

LEAVING SCHOOL IS A BIG  
TRANSITION

# KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SCHOOL SERVICES AND ADULT SERVICES



School services =  
required &  
guaranteed



Adult services = not  
required & not  
guaranteed



WHY DO I NEED TO APPLY  
NOW?



# HOW DO I APPLY?





APPLY TODAY!

CALL 1-800-289-7012

CALLS ARE ANSWERED BETWEEN 8:30AM-5:00PM

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY


STEP 1

# INFORMATION YOU NEED

- ❖ **Have your student's basic information available including:**
  - ▶ **Full name**
  - ▶ **Date of Birth**
  - ▶ **Address**
  - ▶ **Social Security Number,**
  - ▶ **Medicaid ID Number (if eligible)**
  - ▶ **E-mail address**
- ❖ **Plan to spend about 15 minutes on the phone.**
- ❖ **Students/Parents will be asked questions about your residency in South Carolina.**
- ❖ **Students/parents will be asked general questions about the student's disability.**
- ❖ **Unless you are seeking Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) eligibility, student/parent will be asked to choose three Intake Providers from a list read to you. The Intake Provider will assist you through the eligibility process.**



# AFTER THE CALL

- ❖ Within about 1 week, expect a letter from DDSN with information about services. Forms should be completed, signed and returned.
  - ❖ Within about 2 weeks, expect a call from the Intake Provider or a Autism Eligibility Coordinator.
  - ❖ If they do not receive the letter from DDSN or do not receive a phone call from either an Intake Service Provider or Autism Eligibility Coordinator, please call DDSN at 1-800-289-7012.
  - ❖ Make sure to answer/return phone calls and return all needed paperwork to keep the process moving
  - ❖ Failure to return phone calls or paperwork can result in closing the case before an eligibility determination is made
  - ❖ Call and ask if you have questions or are unsure of what to do.
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# CASE MANAGERS ARE THE LOCAL CONTACT



Once eligible, the person / family may select a case management provider.

## WHEN NEEDED, CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES MAY BE PROVIDED.

The case manager will:

- ▶ Assess the student's needs,
- ▶ Develop a plan to address those needs
- ▶ Implement the plan which may include linking to needed services such as
  - ▶ SC Vocational Rehabilitation
  - ▶ Home and Community Based Waiver services and programs
  - ▶ Medicaid services
  - ▶ Other DDSN funded services

# DDSN CASE MANAGERS ARE KEY!





PROVIDES OVERSIGHT

EVERY COUNTY HAS A LOCAL DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD.

LOCAL BOARDS ARE PROVIDERS OF SOME DDSN-SPONSORED SERVICES

EACH COUNTY HAS PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDERS.

PARENTS/STUDENTS CAN CHOOSE SERVICES PROVIDERS FOR THE SERVICES THAT ARE DEEMED APPROPRIATE IN THE STUDENT'S PLAN

# SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs



Find More Service Providers:  
<https://app.ddsn.sc.gov/public/directory/landing.do>

# FUNDING OF SERVICES

\*STATE FUNDS

\*MEDICAID

\*MEDICAID HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED WAIVER




# LET'S TALK ABOUT WAIVERS

- ▶ WAIVERS ARE ONE OF THE MAIN FUNDING SOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES




# COMMUNITY SUPPORTS WAIVER


- ▶ Case Managers can assist a student/family to determine if this is something they may be eligible for and place name on waiting list.
  - ▶ Has an annual cap on the amount of services that can be purchased.
  - ▶ All services are based on the person's assessed needs.
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- Decorative white lines consisting of several parallel diagonal lines extending from the bottom right towards the top right of the slide.



# ID/RD WAIVER

- ▶ **Case Manager can assist a student/family to determine if this is something they may be eligible for and place name on waiting list.**
  - ▶ **No annual cap on the amount of services that can be purchased.**
  - ▶ **All services are based on the person's assessed needs.**
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- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths and orientations, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# HASCI WAIVER

- ▶ Serves people who have suffered a traumatic brain or spinal cord injury or have a similar condition.
  - ▶ Currently, there is no waiting list for this waiver.
  - ▶ All services are based on the person's assessed needs.
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- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths and orientations, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# OTHER FUNDING...

## MEDICAID FUNDS

- \* Targeted Case management


## STATE FUNDS

- State Funded Case management



State Funded  
Follow Along  
for youth  
graduating with  
a job!

# DDSN'S PHILOSOPHY: EMPLOYMENT FIRST

- ❖ Individual integrated employment at or above minimum wage is the preferred outcome for working age adults, regardless of disability.
  - ❖ This is the foundation for assessment and planning for individuals receiving services through DDSN.
  - ❖ We encourage all people who want to work (in any fashion) to apply to the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department which is the state agency whose mission is to assist people with disabilities to achieve and maintain competitive employment.
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THE LAST DAY OF HIGH SCHOOL  
SHOULD LOOK LIKE THE FIRST DAY  
OF ADULT LIFE

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WANT FURTHER INFORMATION?

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QUESTIONS?

