

MISSOURI WAITLIST

WHAT IS A WAITLIST?

A waitlist is implemented when the Missouri State Legislature does not approve adequate funding for services for people with developmental disabilities. This includes new services under the Partnership For Hope (PFH), Community, and Comprehensive Medicaid waivers. The Department of Mental Health (DMH) manages this waitlist, which began on July 1, 2024. If you have been approved for a DMH waiver, you received a waiver slot that connects you to funding for DMH services. Individuals assigned a waiver slot before July 1, 2024, will not be on the waitlist unless they are transitioning from another waiver. The waitlist is anticipated to remain in effect until at least June 30, 2025, with no current certainty about its status for the next fiscal year.

WHY IS THERE A WAITLIST?

The Missouri State Legislature approves the state budget, including funding for DMH. The budget is reviewed and approved by the Governor, House, and Senate, with recommendations from budget committees. For the 2025 budget, recommendations were made to **NOT** increase any funding or increase waiver service slots for DMH services. This recommendation was approved by the House and Senate and finally by the Governor.

OTHER REASONS PEOPLE MAY ACCESS THE WAIVER:

The Department of Mental Health may assign a limited number of waiver slots for the following situations:

- Transitioning from Institutional Settings:**
 Individuals moving out of settings like skilled nursing, or psychiatric facilities may qualify for a waiver slot.
- Aging Out of Waivers:**
 Individuals aging out of waivers such as the MOCDD (Lopez) Waiver or IDA/Children Specific Contract will be approved for the appropriate services.
- Appeals:** If a person is in an appeal process with DMH and the appeal is successful with a determination date before July 1, 2024, they may still access the waiver.



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HOW CAN I ADVOCATE?

We encourage you to contact your legislator to share your story and how the waitlist impacts you and your family. Explain how lifting the waitlist would benefit you, and your family, and improve statewide efficiency. Highlight personal impacts such as job loss, financial difficulties, and/or reduced quality of life and community access.

STATE LEGISLATORS: Visit house.mo.gov and senate.mo.gov and enter your address to find your local representative. Their profile will also show if they are on important committees, such as the budget committee.

GOVERNOR: Call the Governor's office at 573.751.3222 or contact them online via governor.mo.gov/contact-us/mo-governor

OTHER HELPFUL LINKS:

dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities
macdds.org

Share YOUR STORY WITH US

We are searching for stories to share. If you'd like to share how the **WAITLIST** impacts you and your family, please scan the link below to share.

We **D'D LOVE TO ADVOCATE
ON YOUR BEHALF.**



MACDDS
MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES SERVICES

SCAN HERE

