Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

WAITING LIST EQUITY FUND
FISCAL YEAR 2025 REPORT

Pursuant to Health-General Article § 7-205(f)

August 2026

Introduction

Health-General Article § 7-205 (f), Annotated Code of Maryland, requires the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to report annually to the General Assembly and the Department of Legislative Services on the Waiting List Equity Fund ("the Fund"), including:

1. An accounting of all receipts and expenditures to and from the Fund;
2. The number of individuals who left and entered State residential centers during the previous year;
3. The number of additional persons who were on the waiting list for developmental disabilities services during the previous year; and
4. An accounting of each of the factors used in determining the cost of providing services to an individual in a State residential center.

This report represents MDH's response to the annual reporting requirement for Calendar Year 2026 and presents data on the Fund for Fiscal Year 2025.

Background

Health-General Article § 7-205 establishes the Fund in MDH. MDH's Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) provides funding for various services to eligible individuals with a developmental disability, as defined in Health-General Article §7-101.

The Fund serves two purposes: 1) ensuring that funds follow individuals leaving State residential centers into community-based services; and 2) providing community-based services to eligible individuals not currently receiving DDA services.

The two State residential centers in Maryland are the Holly Center[1] and the Potomac Center/SETT (Secure Evaluation & Therapeutic Treatment).[2]

Data Summary

Accounting of receipts and expenditures

The Fund's balance as of July 1, 2024, was $14,037,883.52, and the ending balance as of June 30, 2025, was $0.00, representing a net decrease at the end of Fiscal Year 2025 of $14,037,883.52. Detailed data are presented in Table 1.

[1] Maryland Department of Health. *Holly Center*. https://health.maryland.gov/holly-center/Pages/default.aspx.

[2] Maryland Department of Health. *Potomac Center/SETT*. https://health.maryland.gov/potomac-center/Pages/default.aspx.

As DDA described in its October 2025 report on Cost Containment Actions, changes made during the 2025 legislative session altered the allowable uses of the Fund, enabling DDA to utilize the full balance in Fiscal Year 2025.[3]

Admissions and discharges from State residential centers

Overall, there were 26 admissions and 19 discharges from the MDH State residential centers—the Potomac Center and Holly Center—during Fiscal Year 2025. Detailed data are presented in Table 2.

DDA Waiting List

As of the end of Fiscal Year 2025, there were 3,333 Developmentally Disabled eligible individuals on the DDA Waiting List.[4] Detailed data are shown in Table 3A.

Additionally, there were 2,590 Supports Only eligible individuals on the DDA Waiting List at the end of Fiscal Year 2025.[5] Detailed data are shown in Table 3B.

Cost of services in a State residential center

DDA calculated that the total cost of providing services during Fiscal Year 2025 was $459.07 per person per day at Holly Center and $942.17 per person per day at Potomac Center. Additional information on the accounting behind these figures is included in Tables 4A and 4B.

[3] Maryland Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Administration. (2025, Oct. 15). *Cost Containment Actions for Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026*, pursuant to 2025 Joint Chairmen's Report. https://mlsd.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/JCR/search/detailnonmodal/ent:$002f$002fSD_ILS$002f0$002fSD_ILS:56883/one.

[4] To be designated fully eligible for DDA services, also referred to as "Developmentally Disabled eligible" or "DD-eligible," individuals must meet a series of criteria established in Maryland State law: the individual has a developmental disability; this disability is attributable to a physical or mental impairment, or both; the disability is likely to continue indefinitely; the disability started before the individual turned 22 years old; the individual is unable to live independently without external support or continuing assistance; and the individual needs supports and services that are planned and coordinated for them. Individuals must be DD-eligible to receive services under the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver program. Health-General Article § 7-101(g); COMAR 10.22.01.01B(16).

[5] Some individuals are deemed eligible for individual support services (also referred to as being "Supports Only" eligible), which means they do not meet all of the criteria for full DDA eligibility but do have a developmental disability that is likely to continue indefinitely. Individuals in the Supports Only category cannot qualify for services under the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver program, although they can receive services paid for with State-only funding. Health-General Article § 7-403(c); COMAR 10.22.01.01B(18).

Data Tables

Table 1 – Fiscal Year 2025 receipts and expenditures to and from the Waiting List Equity Fund

Balance: July 1, 2024	$14,037,884
Deposits:	$2,090,242
State residential centers' budget surplus	$1,280,681
Interest earned (Waiting List Equity Fund & Community Service Trust Fund)[a]	$554,419
Waiting List Equity Fund's State tax check-off	$255,142
Disbursements:	$16,128,125
Balance: June 30, 2025	$0.00

Source: DDA Fiscal Unit analysis of Financial Management Information System (FMIS) data

[a] The interest earned from the Community Service Trust Fund helps support the Waiting List Equity Fund.

Table 2 – Fiscal Year 2025 admissions and discharges from State residential centers

	Admissions	Discharges
Potomac Center	18	11
Holly Center	8	8
Total	26	19

Source: Department of Budget and Management. (2026, Jan.). *Managing for Results Annual Performance Report*. https://dbm.maryland.gov/Documents/MFR_documents/2026-MFR-Annual-Performance-Report.pdf.

Table 3A - Number of Developmentally Disabled eligible individuals on the DDA Waiting List, as of June 30th, 2025[a]

Crisis Resolution	Crisis Prevention	Current Request	Total
3	188	3,142	3,333

Source: MDH Data Office analysis of LTSS*Maryland*

[a] To be designated fully eligible for DDA services, also referred to as "Developmentally Disabled eligible" or "DD-eligible," individuals must meet a series of criteria established in Maryland State law: the individual has a developmental disability; this disability is attributable to a physical or mental impairment, or both; the disability is likely to continue indefinitely; the disability started before the individual turned 22 years old; the individual is unable to live independently without external support or continuing assistance; and the individual needs supports and services that are planned and coordinated for them. Individuals must be DD-eligible to receive services under the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver program. Health-General Article § 7-101(g); COMAR 10.22.01.01B(16).

Table 3B - Number of Supports Only eligible individuals on the DDA Waiting List, as of June 30th, 2025[a]

Crisis Resolution	Crisis Prevention	Current Request	Total
16	278	2,296	2,590

Source: MDH Data Office analysis of LTSS*Maryland*

[a] Some individuals are deemed eligible for individual support services (also referred to as being "Supports Only" eligible), which means they do not meet all of the criteria for full DDA eligibility but do have a developmental disability that is likely to continue indefinitely. Individuals in the Supports Only category cannot qualify for services under the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver program, although they can receive services paid for with State-only funding. Health-General Article § 7-403(c); COMAR 10.22.01.01B(18).

Table 4A - Fiscal Year 2025 factors used in determining the cost of providing services for an individual in a State residential center

Expenditure Category	Holly	Potomac
Cost of the facility	$22,690,770	$26,996,108
Less: overhead	$11,942,985	$10,647,663
Less: Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) limit	$2,034,554	$1,561,144
Net cost with adjustments	$8,713,231	$14,787,301
Residential average daily population	52	43
Net cost per person	$167,562	$343,891
Net cost per person per day	**$459.07**	**$942.17**

Source: DDA Fiscal Unit analysis of Financial Management Information System (FMIS) data

Table 4B - Fiscal Year 2025 calculation for facility deposits to the Waiting List Equity Fund

Facility	Days[a]	Net Cost per Person per Day (Avg. Daily Rate)	Fund Deposit
Holly Center	1,938	$459	$889,680
Potomac Center	415	$942	$391,001
Total	2,353	n/a	$1,280,681

Source: DDA Fiscal Unit analysis of Financial Management Information System (FMIS) data

[a] Days are the number of service days represented by the amount of funds deposited for each facility. It is obtained by dividing the fund deposit by the net cost per person per day. If the actual average daily population for each State residential center is less than budgeted, the State residential center is required to deposit the resulting budget surplus into the Waiting List Equity Fund.