



## THE SITUATION:

Georgia is not bringing in enough money to support its citizens. The Governor's budget instructions directed state agencies to **cut their budgets by another 2%**, excluding Medicaid and growth in school enrollment.

The work on the **settlement agreement with the Department of Justice continues**. But this agreement does not cover people with disabilities in nursing homes nor require more services in the community for people with developmental disabilities other than 100 waivers.

The Olmstead Plan which provides objectives in a comprehensively working plan for establishing a good community-based system of services and supports, **has been sent to the Governor, but it has not been approved**. The advocates have requested that the new Ombudsman convene the Olmstead Planning Committee to discuss next steps for implementing the plan.

## THE NEED:

There are **190,000 individuals** living with a disability who require some assistance from a family member or caregiver every day, at great sacrifice to the economic well-being of that family and individual.

There are over **6000 people** on the waiting list for NOW or COMP waivers. This number is underestimated.

There are **130 people** on the 'official' ICWP waiver waiting list. There are more than 6000 individuals in nursing homes who have indicated they would rather live in the community.

*When people have support, they can work, take care of families, participate in their communities and contribute.*

**Get engaged! Support Funding for HCBS!**

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[www.unlockthewaitinglists.com](http://www.unlockthewaitinglists.com)

## THE REQUEST: CALL OR WRITE YOUR LEGISLATOR

- Tell your story, in one page, and send a picture
- Ask your legislator to support:
  - Appropriations in the budget to support implementation of the US v Georgia Settlement Agreement
  - Convening the Olmstead Planning Committee and approving the Olmstead Plan
  - Additional dollars for community-based (ICWP) waivers for people in the community on the waiting list.
- Independent Care Waiver:
  - FY06-FY11 273
  - FY12 33
  - Total 306
  - The current waiting list is 130 individuals.
- DCH FY2013 Proposed Budget:
  - FY 2013: Annualize 33 ICWP waivers from 2012 budget. There is no funding proposed for the 2013 budget for NEW ICWP waivers.

State Dollars	\$545,543
Total Funds	\$1,602,182
- Unlock FY2013 Budget Request:
  - FY 2013: Provide funding for 130 ICWP waivers to eliminate the current waiting list:

State Dollars (est.)	\$2,163,201
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- Money Follows the Person:
  - Money Follows The Person (MFP) is a program to transition individuals that have requested to move out of nursing homes to the community. Each nursing home resident must respond to the MDS Section Q questions, which state "Do you want to talk to someone about the possibility of returning to the community?" The objective was to move 618 individuals for the years 2008-2011 and 305 in 2012.
  - As of October 2010, there were 6046 individuals that had answered this question yes based on the old Q2 data. Q3 data is not available yet.
  - Cumulative transitions as of 6/30/11:
    - 158 older adults
    - 191 physically disabled
    - 9 acquired brain injury
    - 325 developmentally disabled
    - 683 total

## DON'T DELAY, TELL YOUR STORY TODAY

Unlock Steering Committee

- The Georgia Advocacy Office · The Arc of Georgia ·
- The Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities ·
  - Service Provider Association for Developmental Disabilities ·
- The Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia ·
  - People First of Georgia ·
- The Institute on Human Development & Disability at
  - The University of Georgia ·
  - The Center for Leadership on Disability at
    - Georgia State University ·