

# Urgent Call to Action: Emergency Rally

Hosted By:



## Help Us Protect DD Services

As many of you know, Governor Wes Moore has proposed the FY25 & FY26 state budget which is set to be **voted on and approved in the next two months**. The proposed budgets include **substantial cuts to DDA services** in an effort to address the statewide budget deficit.

These proposed cuts present an unprecedented threat to funding for DD supports for community providers and the people we support.

While we know it's short notice, it is **critical** that you make every effort to join us **in Annapolis Monday evening** for a rally organized by the Maryland Developmental Disability Coalition in front of the State House. Below is the information:

Emergency rally on **Lawyers Mall in Annapolis, directly in front of the State House**, to protect our vital developmental disability services.

- **Date:** February 3rd, 2025
- **Time:** 7 - 8:15 PM
- **Location:** Lawyers Mall, Annapolis, MD, directly in front of the State House (100 State Circle)
- **Who:** Everyone affected by The Governor's drastic budget cuts to DD services, especially people who use provider supports, family members, and provider staff.
- **Theme:** Save Our DD Services
- **Signs:** *Do not* bring signs with sticks or handles of any kind. The DD Coalition will have signs available for people to hold. If you want to bring your own signs, they should be handheld with no sticks attached (this is strongly enforced by Capitol police) and be respectful of people with disabilities.
- **What to Wear:** In solidarity, we encourage everyone to wear white to symbolize our unity and commitment to protecting our services.
- **Parking:** Information on Annapolis parking can be found [here](#). The two closest garages to Lawyer's Mall are the Noah Hillman garage and the Gott's Court garage. There is also 2-hour street parking that can be paid for with the Park Mobile app on your phone.

While here, we **encourage everyone** to stop by their elected officials' offices to let them know you are in Annapolis for the DD budget cuts. The House and Senate office buildings are located directly across the street from Lawyers Mall and anyone entering the buildings will need some form of identification.

To find your legislator, visit: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>.

We need as many people as possible to join us for this rally. Your presence is crucial to highlight the impact these cuts will have and to advocate for the services that are so desperately needed. Together, we can send a powerful message to our lawmakers that we will not accept these cuts without a fight.

If you would like to attend the rally with Ardmore, please click [here](#) or the button below to sign up.

[Join Ardmore at the Rally](#)

The General Assembly goes into session in the State House at **8pm** on **Monday nights**, so legislators will be in Annapolis in the late afternoon and evening and will be walking by Lawyer's Mall during the rally.

The proposed budget cuts threaten to devastate the services that countless people and families rely on. We cannot afford to stand by while these critical resources are at risk. It is essential that we come together to make our voices heard and demonstrate the urgent need for support and funding for our community.

Please mark your calendars, spread the word, and bring your friends, family, and allies. Let's unite to protect our developmental disability services and ensure that our community's needs are met.



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