Olmstead FY2022 Q2 Update
June 27, 2022

Data from FY2022 Q2 shows general consistency for Olmstead progress.

Under housing, the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) recently was approved for 78 more housing vouchers, thus enabling them to transition more individuals back into the community. Moreover, with the opening of two new assisted living facilities in Summer 2021 and increased capacity for Medicaid enrollment, the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) noted a significant uptick in Assisted Living Facility (ALF) utilization. (Note: annual ALF enrollment data will be reported in Q4).

Under health and wellness, DBH is working on increasing vaccination rates at St. Elizabeths which was 77.1% for inpatients as of June 8th. Admissions and discharges are still being impacted by the pandemic, particularly with the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in the District. Prior to being admitted from the Department of Corrections, individuals needed to undergo a quarantine period, which slows down the admission process. All agencies are noting challenges due to the decreasing numbers in the health care workforce. The difficulty obtaining a home health aide poses another hurdle when trying to transition an individual to a waiver service.

Under employment, the Department on Disability Services (DDS) is noting an increase in hourly wages for supported employment as well as an increase in number of individuals who remain employed over 90 days from 109 to 131 people. The employment and retention rates are increasing as well as we emerge from the pandemic and the minimum wage is increasing in the District from $15.20 to $16.10 on July 1, 2022. The number of new placements for individuals who receive and successfully complete Supported Employment under DBH’s program has increased from 31 for Q1 to 32 for Q2. The higher number of 81 reflects the addition to the number of positions obtained at the end of the previous fiscal year.

Under new partners, the DC Public Library (DCPL) was able to significantly increase their community outreach efforts from 23 to 90 with COVID-19 restrictions lifted over this quarter. The Department of For Hire Vehicles (DFHV) saw an increase from 49,950 to 62,711 due to ridership growth in new programs, such as My Rides and Promise Rides.