

Waiver Start-Up Funds \$1,291,000

\$1,291,000 in waiver start-up funds was made available to the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services as reimbursement for costs incurred while establishing community residential placement of individuals through the use of the 860 Mental Retardation Waiver slots approved in 2005. The Department authorized \$3,000 per slot to any provider who had begun or was authorized to begin congregate residential services to qualified individuals through the use of any of the slots. The Department estimated that \$918,000 would be used for this purpose and the remaining \$373,000 was set aside and made available to fund extraordinary costs for any plan for which justification could be made that the placement was in jeopardy without this support.

As of March 31, 2006 \$700,547 of these funds were distributed to Community Services Boards and private providers who have provided community placements for 193 consumers through use of the slots made available in 2005. Plans are being finalized that use the balance of these funds to move consumers from the facilities to the community.