

## Developmental Disabilities Services in Georgia

Georgia offers a variety of services to people with mental retardation or developmental disabilities who are eligible for services. Some services are available through state dollars only, while others are available through Medicaid waiver dollars only. Your specific needs will determine which services are most appropriate for you.

- **Support Coordination** – Support Coordination is a case management service that all individual recipients of MHDDAD services and individuals on the Short Term Planning List are eligible to receive. The purpose of case management services is to identify, coordinate, and review the delivery of all services.
- **Respite Care** – These services offers temporary care during an emergency or when the family or caretaker needs a break.
- **Family Support** – Family Support is a broad range of goods and services such as respite, personal living benefits, behavioral supports and specialized clothing or equipment, designed to assist families in supporting a loved one with disabilities who is living in the home.
- **Day Support Services**- These services are provided in the facility and community setting. There is an option of all day supports occurring exclusively in the community. All other individuals choose two of the four service options: Community or Facility Day Support, Prevocational support, or community employment. In the facility setting activities focus around helping people to develop a variety of skills that include daily living skills, leisure and leisure skills, communication skills, mobility training, preparing individuals for paid or unpaid employment, and behavioral supports. In the community setting activities the intended outcome is to improve the individual's access to the community. These activities include assisting individuals with money management skills, teaching appropriate shopping skills, developing work skills, activities to obtain or sustain work such as job development, supervision, and training.
- **Supported Employment** – This service provides support for individuals who need ongoing support to work. Services include supports to choose, obtain, and keep paid employment. The scope and intensity may change over time based on the needs of the individual. Most jobs in this category are a minimum of 20 hours a week.
- **Personal Supports** – This service provides training and in-home assistance to help people with mental retardation/developmental disabilities continue to live with their families or on their own.

## Developmental Disabilities Services in Georgia (*continued*)

- Natural Support Enhancements- Natural Support Enhancement Services are targeted to individuals who currently live in the community who have access to a natural support system, consisting of family, neighbors, community members, friends who want to have an active role in supporting the individual. Services may include training or assistance in social interaction, communication, money management skills, behavior support, daily living skills. Emphasis is on fostering participation in social and recreational activities as well as managing health needs. Respite and personal support may be utilized.
- Consumer Directed Natural Support Enhancement Services – Consumers and their natural support networks have the option of self-directing the natural support enhancement services.
- Natural Support Therapies – Therapies include physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and hearing therapy, and nutritional therapy. Natural Support therapies were developed as an alternative to home based therapies available in the state Medicaid plan.
- Residential Programs – Residential services are provided in a broad range of community living arrangements in homes and apartments. Individuals live in small group settings of four or less. Emphasis is placed on supporting individuals to participate in community life, including shopping, recreational activities, banking, etc. Training in the home includes daily living, household care such as meal preparation, laundry, house cleaning and other similar tasks.
- Specialized Medical Supplies and Equipment – Services includes devices, controls, appliances, supplies and equipment that enable the individual to increase his abilities to perform daily living skills and to interact more independently. Medical equipment and environmental adaptations include the physical adaptations to the residence, to ensure the health and safety of the individual.