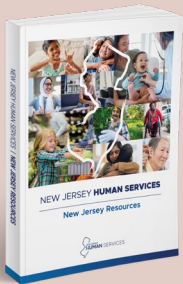


## NJ ABLE: Achieving a Better Life Experience

As the lead state agency for New Jersey's ABLE plan, NJ ABLE, DDS provides information and technical assistance and presents on the topic throughout the state. NJ ABLE empowers qualified individuals with disabilities to save for disability-related expenses in tax advantaged savings accounts without losing eligibility for critical assistance programs like Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid.

### NJ RESOURCES

DDS offers the following guides in English and Spanish, in hard copy and electronically:



DDS Publications

Request hard copies via email at:  
[dds.publications@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:dds.publications@dhs.nj.gov)

# MISSION

*DDS serves as the lead state agency representing the interests of individuals with disabilities by providing information and support to enhance health, education, employment, recreation and social engagement, while also ensuring representation in policy and decision-making.*

**NJ Division of Disability Services**  
Peri L. Nearon, *Executive Director*

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PO Box 705  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0705  
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DDS Web



**ACCESS | EQUITY | INCLUSION**



NEW JERSEY HUMAN SERVICES



## ABOUT US

### What We Do

The Division of Disability Services (DDS) provides a single point-of-entry for New Jerseyans seeking information about programs, services and supports available to residents with disabilities. Focused on promoting independence for individuals with disabilities in all areas of life, DDS aims to streamline the pathway to information and services, as well as to advance greater access, equity and inclusion.

### Who We Serve

DDS serves individuals of all ages and disabilities, statewide, and is the lead state agency for individuals with physical disabilities.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### Information and Referral Services

DDS connects callers to live, professionally certified, Community Resource Specialists specifically trained in disability services, who:

- **inform** and educate on services available statewide;
- **screen** for appropriate services and supports;
- **assist** in navigating and connecting to programs and services based on individualized needs;
- **attend** disability-related community events and speaking engagements throughout the state; and
- **work in partnership** with some benefit programs such as [NJ WorkAbility](#) and [Managed Long Term Services and Supports \(MLTSS\)](#).

## Traumatic Brain Injury Fund (TBI FUND)

Through the TBI Fund, DDS provides New Jersey residents of any age who have survived a traumatic brain injury the opportunity to access the brain injury related services and supports they need to live in the community. The Fund purchases supports and services to foster independence and maximize quality of life when insurance, personal resources, and/or public programs are unavailable to meet those needs. A portion of the Fund is used to support public education, outreach and prevention strategies related to TBI.



## Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP)

Through PASP, DHS offers a personal care assistance (PCA) program designed to offset the costs of PCA services for self-directing adults with permanent physical disabilities who are engaged in work, school, and volunteer activities. Serving as the employer, participants use a monthly budget to hire assistants to provide PCA services tailored to their schedules and needs, up to 40 hours per week. After paying an income-based cost share, participants are able to redirect the remainder of their income toward other living expenses while PASP covers the costs of their personal care.



## Disability Health & Wellness Initiatives (DH&W)

DDS collaborates with policy makers, health educators, public and private agencies and experts in the field of health and wellness in developing initiatives throughout the state promoting healthy living and prevention of secondary conditions for people with disabilities. Visit our website for full details on the current initiatives below:

- **Improving Access to Equitable, High Quality, Evidence-based Services and Supports for New Jerseyans with TBI**
- **Preventing Violence and Abuse Against Women with Disabilities**
- **Inclusive Healthy Communities Grant Program (IHC)**