



Dear DBHIDS Team,
On March 2, 2017 Mayor Kenney will deliver his Annual Budget Address to Philadelphia City Council for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18). The Mayor's proposed FY18 budget address will highlight the administration's priorities and investments for the City of Philadelphia. As emphasized in last week's staff announcement, we are paying close attention to the threat of budget cuts and potential block grant funding which may impact the Mayor's proposed budget. I encourage you to stay engaged in the process.



Over the past few weeks, DBHIDS has provided testimony during a number of public hearings regarding the stability of Philadelphia's critical social safety net amidst the threat of significant budget cuts and Affordable Care Act (ACA) repeal. We will continue to inform, and stress the impact drastic funding cuts could have on those who receive both behavioral health and intellectual disability services. On March 6, 2017, the Mayor's cluster of Health and Human Services departments, which includes DBHIDS, will provide testimony during a City Council hearing regarding the potential impact of the ACA repeal.

During times of transition, transparency and information sharing are even more vital. As I continue to serve as the Acting Commissioner for DBHIDS, I appreciate your on-going commitment and dedication. No official decisions have been made regarding a permanent selection for Commissioner of DBHIDS. As we receive updated information from the Mayor's office regarding this matter, we will provide timely updates to the system.

Weekly General Updates

- March is Intellectual disabilities month. To celebrate IDS has planned several events during the month. Please help IDS celebrate, and attend if you are available:
 - **3/2:** [IDS Fashion For All- Fashion Show](#)
 - **3/9:** [Life Sharing Lunch and Learn](#)
 - **3/16:** [Communication Champions Meeting](#)

- Interested in learning about population health or have an idea to share? Register for DBHIDS' Population Health Roundtables:
 - **3/14:** [Dr. Kamilah Jackson, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, CBH](#)
 - **3/27:** [Sandy Vasko, Director, Office of Behavioral Health, DBHIDS](#)
 - **4/11:** [Jeffrey Orlin, Administrative Services Director, DBHIDS](#)
- Great news for Healthy Minds Philly. The website is now fully translated in Spanish. Users can change the language by clicking the "Español" icon at the top of the webpage. Please take a look and share the good news with our partners and providers: HealthyMindsPhilly.org

David T. Jones
Acting Commissioner
Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services



For DBHIDS resources visit: bit.ly/DBHIDSResources
Did you know? [DBHIDS Team Highlights Archive](#)