

SPD Wait Lists

Issue: Across Nova Scotia, there are wait lists for most SPD programs.

Government Action:

- In 2011/12, DCS is improving supports for persons with disabilities by expanding the:
 - the Independent Living and Alternative Family Support programs
 - the Direct Family Support for Children program
 - day programs for young disabled adults.
- DCS is also:
 - implementing inter-disciplinary outreach teams to better support families and service providers
 - introducing transitional support for families with children between 18 and 19 years moving from children's direct family support program to adulthood
- A new community home in Antigonish has increased the SPD programs's residential capacity. It accommodates eight individuals.
- In May 2010, DCS implemented a new wait list management system. The new system will prioritize the people and match the individual to a home as soon as a placement becomes available.

Key Facts:

- Since 2009, funding for the SPD program has increased by approximately \$20 million.
- There are now 276 individuals with disabilities, who have no SPD supports, on the wait list for SPD supportive living options. Of 276 individuals, 261 are adults with disabilities and 15 are under the age of 19 years.
- A further 540 adults with disabilities have requested a move to an alternate support setting within the continuum of services provided by the department. Of 540 individuals, 528 are adults with disabilities and 12 are under the age of 19 years.

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