

DP 10107 DD Refinancing

- Currently converting GF funded clients to Medicaid – if eligible
- What happens to persons who are not eligible?
- Workers with Disabilities only works if “Level of Care” is met
- We support this effort to save dollars
- BUT...
- Some will not be eligible
- Two categories of persons will need to continue with general funds
  1. **Dual Diagnosed** – Mild Mental Retardation diagnosis with a Mental Health issues
    - They exceed the IQ threshold (1997)
    - They don't meet “Level of Care”

Dave – 55 years old, IQ in the 70's, works 2 jobs, lives with his mom (dieing of heart failure), has been told he has to move out of the family home, any correction ask of him – he takes personally, calls in sick and avoids confrontation.

Leroy – older than dirt, IQ in the 70's, works, been in pysch center many times, been in jail at least once, most incident reports – medication management

2. **Workers who financially** don't meet Medicaid eligibility – worked all there life because we preach that as a value statement

JT – 31 years old, IQ in the 50's, works 30-40 hours per week, his employer and he share in the cost of insurance, lives with his mom (dieing of cancer) and dad, bought a car outright with money he saved from his job and is saving to buy a double wide, slept on the couch for 18 years so he could save money, had no idea that he needed somewhere to put the double wide when he buys it. He is not eligible to buy a Medicaid card. Switched to Supported Living because he will need a lot of support in order to move out on his own.

Howard – in his 40's, IQ in the 50's, works 35 -40 hours per week for Billings Clinic, pays for a basic insurance through payroll deduction, lives by himself in a condo he bought, can not read, can not write, was taken advantage of financially, does not understand changes in his job. Can not afford the spend down to buy a Medicaid card.

Please make sure there continues to be funds for these folks – they **will** become our responsibility somewhere else in the system.

Supported Employment is not longer a value in this system. I am disappointed in the State of Montana in the direction it is taking. People with disabilities should be encouraged, just like anyone else, to work in their community and be productive.