

Ministry of Community
and Social Services

Deputy Minister

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June 24, 2011

Ms Judy Reid
President, Board of Directors
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Ridgeville, ON
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Dear Ms Reid:

I am writing to tell you about the latest changes in our developmental services transformation.

Making the developmental services system easier for individuals and families to navigate has long been one of our goals of transformation. This responds to feedback we received from individuals and families who found the system complicated and difficult to understand.

By developing clear eligibility criteria, a standard application and assessment process and new access points for developmental services, we are already making great progress.

Now we are taking the next step in our transformation by moving to one direct funding program.

The Ontario government currently supports two direct funding programs to help adults with a developmental disability who live in the community or with their families: Special Services at Home and Passport.

Adults who are currently receiving Special Services at Home will receive that funding through Passport starting April 1, 2012. After that, adults will apply for Passport funding through the regular application process and cycles.

We will be expanding the guidelines for Passport to cover a broader range of services, such as respite care. Special Services at Home will continue to serve children and youth.

I want to assure you that no adult currently receiving assistance will lose their funding or service because of these changes and that we will be managing these changes carefully by working with you as we move forward.

These changes support Ontario's modernization plan for developmental services by making the system easier to navigate and more flexible for individuals and families.

I encourage you to read the upcoming issue of Spotlight on Transformation which will be available on the ministry's web site at ontario.ca/community.

Thank you for being a trusted partner in our developmental services transformation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marg Rappolt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Marg Rappolt