The Self-Advocacy Association of New York State

(SANYS)

SANYS New York State Budget Easy Read

January 6th, 2022
Governor Kathy Hochul has given us some information about the budget.

Every year the governor suggests a budget for New York and works with legislators to negotiate it.

The legislature and the governor must agree on a final budget by April 1st.
We will have more information about the budget as time goes on.

Right now, we want to give you some of the information we have.

You can use this information to start thinking about things to advocate for.
Governor Hochul wants to spend $10 Billion on helping workers in healthcare.

Some of this money comes from the federal government in Washington D.C. and some comes from New York.

Some of this money will be given to workers directly, and some will be spent in other ways to help with hiring more workers.
Most **DSPs** could get up to $3000 for continuing to work.

Some **DSPs** who work in **CDPA** self-direction would not be able to get this money.

We are still waiting to hear some of the details of how **DSPs** would get the money and when.
There is also money for a **Cost of Living Adjustment** or **COLA** for the first time in many years.

The **COLA** increases the amount of money that service providers get when costs increase every year.

In the past, most service providers have used the **COLA** to increase **DSP** pay; you can advocate to your service provider to tell them how you want the **COLA** spent.
Many advocates in our field have been fighting for better pay for staff for a long time.

Many advocates are happy to see bonuses for staff and an ongoing COLA.

Even with these increases, many people think it will still be difficult to hire and keep staff in New York.
The Governor also wants money for a program called BOCES that helps high school students become DSPs.

There is also money for helping new immigrants to New York to become DSPs.

There is also a program to expand hiring people with disabilities to work for New York State.
The Governor proposes creating a Chief Disability Officer or CDO for New York State.

The CDO will work to promote hiring people with disabilities across New York State.

They will also make suggestions to Governor about how to improve employment for people with disabilities.
Most of the information about this budget was shared withSANYS by the New York Alliance. You can find more information from them here:

www.nyalliance.org

If you want to hear more proposed changes, please stay in touch with SANYS. We will bring you new information by email, and discuss it at our weekly events.

If you have any information you would like to hear about or discuss, you can work with your regionalSANYS coordinator to let other self-advocates know.