

DAP Facts:

Delivering Over Three Decades of Successful Legal Assistance for Disabled New Yorkers

Who we are

Recognized as a model across the nation, New York State's **Disability Advocacy Program (DAP)** has provided low income disabled New Yorkers seeking Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability (SSD) with legal assistance since 1983, and returns millions of dollars to the State and local counties every year.

In the past year:

4,510 cases
opened

4,630 cases
closed

3,440 people
helped with advice/referrals

\$36,236,159
returned to NYS

DAP is an Investment That Works for New York

DAP serves New Yorkers who are unable to work due to their medical problems. By helping disabled New Yorkers get off of public assistance and onto SSI or SSD, DAP has historically returned between \$2-3 for each dollar invested - over \$1.3 billion since the program's inception in:

- Retroactive benefits paid to the claimant from the date of the original application for benefits.
- Federal dollars paid back to the State as Interim Assistance for the Safety Net benefits provided while an SSI application is pending.
- Savings for local counties as DAP moves disabled people from locally-funded Safety Net benefits programs onto longer-termed, federally-funded assistance.

DAP is funded at \$8.26 million, \$5.26 million from the Executive and \$3 million from the Legislature. For FY 19-20, the Executive included \$5.26 million for DAP. We are seeking an additional \$2 million from the Legislative over last year's \$3 million, for total funding of \$10.26 million. Since DAP is funded with a 50/50% share from the State and counties, only \$2.5 million general fund money is needed to meet this goal.

DAP not only helps thousands of disabled persons every year, it also makes sound fiscal sense. Please continue to invest in DAP.

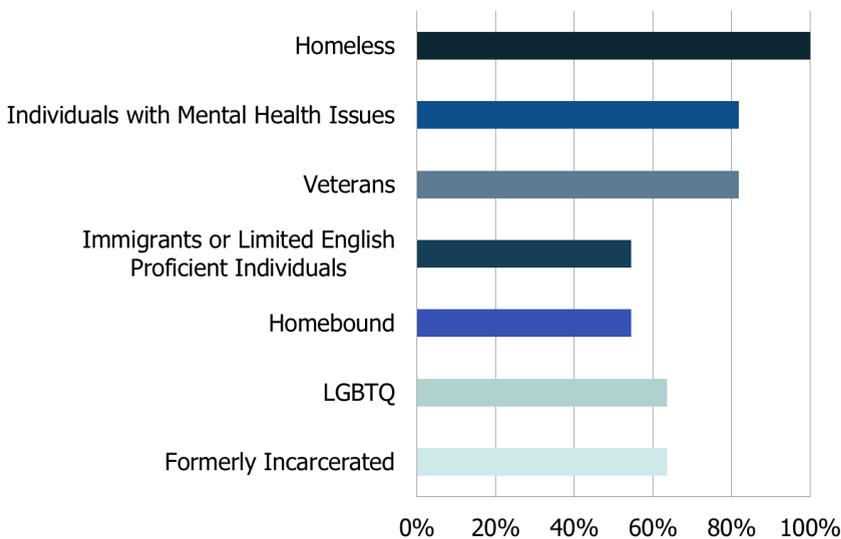
DAPWorks

Advances the Rights of Disabled New Yorkers

DAP Needs Stable Funding to Best Serve NYS

Every DAP provider surveyed reported that they were unable to meet the demand for services in their area. National trends are resulting in higher numbers of denials of benefits, and the growing complexity of cases requires more time spent by each provider on their ever growing caseloads. The gains that have been made in reaching underserved communities, especially those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, must be preserved in the coming fiscal year.

DAP Providers Have Developed Regionally-Specific Initiatives to Reach Under-Served Communities



When a disabled person applies for SSI or SSD it is very common for their application to be denied despite their disability, often because of lack of medical evidence.

DAP clients are among New York State's most severely disabled adults and children, and are unable to prepare an appeal on their own without legal assistance. DAP advocates, in every county, are available to help clients navigate the complex process gathering evidence, working with hospitals and doctor's offices to track down medical records, and representing claimants at their hearings.

DAP is a WIN - WIN - WIN for New York's Economy



DAP client achieves greater financial and housing stability



DAP client spends retroactive benefits in local economy



New York State and counties recover interim assistance and save with cost avoidance

For more information on DAP, contact:
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