



State of Connecticut  
Department of Developmental Services



M. Jodi Rell  
Governor

Peter H. O'Meara  
Commissioner

Kathryn du Pree  
Deputy Commissioner

April 22, 2009

*Message from Commissioner Peter O'Meara:*

The previous directive by Secretary Robert Genuario of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) asking all agencies to review Personal Services (PS) accounts and prepare plans to reduce employee payroll costs for submission to OPM by April 14<sup>th</sup> has been extended until April 29<sup>th</sup> and additional direction has been provided to agencies in a memo issued yesterday.

<http://www.ct.gov/dds/lib/dds/budget/personalservicesreductionplan042109.pdf>

Negotiations between the Governor M. Jodi Rell's Administration and state employee unions regarding concessions have continued the past couple of weeks. Governor Rell and the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) have confirmed that SEBAC has voted to enter into a tentative agreement with the State of Connecticut on a package that will result in substantial savings in the cost of providing public services in the coming biennium and beyond. The agreement has now been sent to rank-and-file members for ratification. Following ratification by employees, the agreement will be presented to the General Assembly for approval. Details of the tentative agreement are expected to be released next week, after the formal agreement has been signed and unions have had an opportunity to provide information to their members.

The House and Senate Republicans presented their proposed budget for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 last week. A copy of this proposal as well as previously released proposals by the Governor and the Appropriations Committee are available on the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS) State Budget Update webpage. Budget talks between legislative leaders and the Governor's office are expected to begin as early as this week.

DDS remains cognizant of the impact that uncertainty over budget decisions has on the individuals who we serve and their families, DDS staff and our private provider network. We will continue to share information as it is made available to us.

I continue to thank everyone for your continued patience during these challenging budgetary times.