

## News from GATES...

Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports



### SNOW DAZE AND SUPER BOWL BREAK

**Dawn A. Randolph, MPA**

January 29, 2019

#### Key Events This Week

*House Human Resources Appropriation  
Committee meeting on AFY 2019  
Mon, Jan 28 1:30-3:30pm*



*Due to winter weather the House and Senate are taking it day by day  
in terms of being in session to vote.*

*Thursday & Friday Session on break until Tuesday, Feb 5th to  
celebrate the Super Bowl.*

#### The Budget

During the Budget Hearings last week we heard from all the major agencies. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities had the most extensive and impressive additions to the FY 2020 Budget. I think it is worth listing the additions for BHDD programs and services.

- \$4,939,920 Residential Addictive Diseases funding increase
- \$4,249,798 to provide for 125 New Options Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) slots for

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#### Special Announcements



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**GATES  
Board of  
Directors  
Meeting  
Friday,  
February 1st,  
2019**

people with developmental disabilities (there are nearly 6,000 people waiting for services)

- \$8,263,770 Annualize behavioral health crisis centers and \$10,212,349 for increased bed capacity
- \$10,550,421 increase behavioral health services across the state
- \$1,530,000 annualize supported employment and education services for 500 students at a rate of \$6,120 per year
- \$790,801 funds transferred from Child & Adolescent Addictive Diseases to Substance Abuse Prevention Program to prevent opioid abuse

GVRA - No new funding recommended for Vocational Rehabilitation. Executive Director Sean Casey provided a review of the AFY '19 budget to the subcommittee on Monday, January 28th and said that they received no new dollars for programs. He said currently they are leaving \$22 million at the federal level and would need \$5.9 million in state funding match to draw down the full allotment for Georgia VR.

#### Flow of the Session

This is a very short week with the legislature scheduled to be in through Wednesday (pending weather conditions) and then a very long break for the Super Bowl. They will be back in on Tuesday, February 5th. There are no bills moving through committee yet as all committees have been re-convened and committee assignment were finalized late last week. After the Super Bowl weekend I expect the regular weekly schedule will be implemented and committees will begin to take up bills.

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## Call for Information

*THE PORTAL* is a communication tool for GATES and GATES members. If you have stories about your organization, staff announcements, program descriptions, or other information you want to share with other GATES members, please send the info to Charles Hall, [chall@asginfo.net](mailto:chall@asginfo.net)



9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Location: Creative Enterprises,  
Lawrenceville, GA

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*Charles Hall,  
[chall@asginfo.net](mailto:chall@asginfo.net)*

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