

## **Decision-making Factors and Process for Madison's Next Placement**

Here is how Madison will be described to providers to determine if there is an appropriate placement:

Madison is a 24-year-old female with autism who has a 3/5 matrix score for both residential and day programming and needs 1:1 support and management of a behavior plan.

Here is what I learned through our Executive Director at Pathfinders for Autism and several phone conversations I had with Madison's DDA coordinator, DDA management, and a legal advisor:

DDA funding amounts are based on a matrix score and "add on's." The scoring is done on an Individual Indicator Rating Scale, (link is listed) that ranges from 1/5 to 5/5, with 5/5 receiving the most funding. Additionally, there are "add on" supports that can be added for additional funding, that include such things as a 1:1 or even 2:1, and/or professional supports like nursing, therapies, etc.

The top score is primarily about physical health issues. The bottom score indicates the behavioral supports necessary. Madison's current score is appropriate for her level of care, we believe. We are verifying this.

Unfortunately, there is no database of providers that list openings so we will be calling each provider (dozens and dozens) until we find those who can provide the level of service that Madison needs. If a provider has a qualified opening, they will review Madison's admissions packet, sent from her DDA coordinator. If they are still interested, they will visit Madison and her team at the inpatient unit (Kennedy Krieger's Neurobehavioral Unit) and the DDA coordinator and I will visit them and tour their location.

Then we will make a decision.

As you can tell, this will take some time. I'm trying to "trust the process" but also be savvy about it. Please let me know if you have any insights or information that could help my Madison.

Individual Indicator Rating Scale

<http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov/Pages/Developments/2015/IIRS%20Matrix%20form.pdf>

Background info on enrolling in DDA services:

<http://www.disabilityrightsmd.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/F.-Enrolling-in-DDA's-Medicaid-Waiver.docx>