

January 24, 2017
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Disability Rights Wisconsin Encouraged by Governor's Proposal to update MAPP

(Madison) -- Monday Governor Walker announced a plan for "Wisconsin Works for Everyone" that includes changes to the Medicaid Assistance Purchase Plan (MAPP) work-incentive program. MAPP gives individuals with disabilities the opportunity to purchase Medicaid coverage even if their income exceeds the usual Medicaid limits so that they can pursue employment without losing critical Medicaid coverage. Continued Medicaid coverage can be very important to people with disabilities because Medicaid provides services and supports which can be vital and necessary to maintaining employment, but are not available under most private insurance plans.

Over the past year Disability Rights Wisconsin joined with a number of disability advocates and the Department of Health Services (DHS) to explore how MAPP could be updated and improved to better reduce disincentives and barriers to work while continuing to recognize the significant challenges that people with disabilities face trying to enter the work force. DRW looks forward to seeing the final budget language and thanks DHS for their commitment to this process and the Governor for including it in his budget.

This effort to improve and continue the MAPP program only serves to emphasize the critical role of Medicaid in assisting people with disabilities to remain independent and engaged in both work and community settings.

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