



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Executive Department

Executive Directive Six (2020)

Continuing the Community Integration Team

Community Integration Team

Virginians with disabilities have a right to enjoy the same benefits of society and freedoms of everyday life that Virginians without disabilities enjoy. The Commonwealth has an obligation under the U.S. Supreme Court’s *Olmstead v. L.C. by Zimring*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999) decision, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Virginians with Disabilities Act to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to become fully integrated into the community if they choose. This is more than an obligation—it is a necessity. Virginia must continue to prioritize the mandate of the *Olmstead* decision to ensure the integration of individuals with disabilities into every community in the Commonwealth, as set forth in § 51.5-1 of the *Code of Virginia*, “to encourage and enable persons with disabilities to participate fully and equally in the social and economic life of the Commonwealth.”

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor under Article V, Section 1 of the Constitution of Virginia and § 2.2-103 and § 2.2-104 of the *Code of Virginia*, I hereby direct the following Cabinet Secretaries and their respective executive branch agencies and councils to continue their collaborative efforts to complete and update a comprehensive, cross-governmental strategic plan designed to ensure continued community integration of Virginians with disabilities:

Secretary of Commerce and Trade

Department of Housing and Community Development

Secretary of Education

Department of Education

Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind

Secretary of Health and Human Resources

Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services

Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Department of Medical Assistance Services

Virginia Board for People with Disabilities

Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs
Department of Veterans' Services

Secretary of Transportation
Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Chief Workforce Development Officer

Strategic Plan for Individuals with Disabilities

The goals of this strategic plan shall be to provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to choose to move from institutions to appropriate, more integrated settings and to avoid institutionalization. The plan shall contain strategies that comprehensively address community services and supports, housing, transportation, employment and workforce issues, and shall be accompanied by a report on statewide progress in addressing these issues. Additional agencies that are not part of the Community Integration Implementation Team may be consulted in the development of the plan. The plan shall be submitted to me for my approval no later than August 31, 2020, and shall be updated and submitted every four years by August 31.

I hereby direct the Cabinet Secretaries, executive branch agencies and councils to work in close collaboration with local governments, local government agencies, and stakeholders in the Commonwealth.

Effective Date of the Executive Directive

This Executive Directive rescinds Executive Directive 6 (Kaine 2007) and will remain in full force and effect unless amended or rescinded by further executive action.

Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia, this 2nd day of January, 2020.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ralph S. Northam", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Ralph S. Northam, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kelly Thomasson", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Kelly Thomasson, Secretary of Commonwealth