

INVEST IN NEW YORKERS WITH DISABILITIES!

Nonprofit agencies deliver supports to 85% of New Yorkers with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These Medicaid-funded services provide people with I/DD support with the basic tasks of daily living, residential housing, clinical services, vocational training, community integration, respite services and more. These essential programs ensure the health and wellbeing of New Yorkers with disabilities.

For decades, New York has not adequately invested in these services. Systemic underfunding has caused a critical staffing crisis and eroded supports for people with disabilities.

This has led to:

1 in 3
DSPs leaving the field
20,000

unfilled direct care positions
38% of providers
reducing programs

WE ARE IN CRISIS!

Source: nydisabilityadvocates.com/workforce



**New Yorkers
with disabilities
deserve better!**

ACT NOW!

**Urge the Governor and legislators
to invest in New Yorkers with
disabilities. Scan the code
to send a message now!**



HOW DID WE GET HERE?

In the past decade, costs have more than quadrupled due to inflation, yet year after year, the state neglected to invest in I/DD services. Without investment, wages for essential staff stagnated, the staffing crisis escalated, infrastructure deteriorated, and programs are being forced to close.

Minimal increases made in recent years were touted as “historic investments,” yet those investments didn’t even cover the cost of inflation.

WHAT’S THE SOLUTION?

Permanent investment in Direct Support Professional (DSP) salaries is essential to recruit and retain skilled support staff.

Ongoing investment in the field is necessary to reverse years of underfunding and ensure the sustainability of essential supports and services for New Yorkers with I/DD.

We’re asking the state to do two things:

**Include a 3.2% Cost of Living Adjustment in the 2024-25 Budget
&
Establish a Direct Support Wage Enhancement for Care Workers**

What is the COLA?

The annual Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) is a planned increase in state program budgets, intended to increase funding appropriately to adjust for inflation and the rising cost of operations. A 3.2% COLA would compensate for this year’s inflation. It would merely meet rising costs and keep us from slipping further.

What is the DSWE?

The Direct Support Wage Enhancement (DSWE) is a targeted workforce investment that would give providers \$4,000 per eligible employee to enhance the hourly rate of pay for frontline staff. This investment is necessary to stabilize our workforce and recruit and retain the skilled staff required to support New Yorkers with I/DD.

For more information,
visit cpstate.org/advocacy.



CP State

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