

# PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES DESERVE MORE

## Support SB3764 (Villa) & HB4806 (Mussman)

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) deserve the opportunity to lead meaningful lives in their community.

Illinois has not met its obligation to afford them this opportunity.

State leaders should make funding IDD services a **PRIORITY**.

*The state has made incremental investments since 2017:*

- Increasing wages for direct support professionals (DSPs)
- But, wages have not kept pace with minimum wage increases, inflation, competitive job market, or the cost of delivering services

*The result:*

- **UNFILLED** positions
- **CLOSED** group homes and day programs
- **NO** expanded access to services
- **EXCESSIVE** overtime, which is **NOT** reimbursed by the state



## THE SOLUTION:

*The state-commissioned Guidehouse Rate Study recommends DSP wage reimbursement be at least **150% of minimum wage**.*

Minimum wage goes up another dollar January 1, 2025.

**Please support a \$3 per hour DSP wage increase this spring to finally achieve 150% of minimum wage**

Without your action or intervention, there will be:

- No wage increase for 24 months – January, 2026
- An inability to recruit and retain this critical workforce
- A reversal of the gains the state has helped us make

### The Cost:

- **\$120M FY25 budget appropriation**
- **\$60M reimbursed through federal match**
- **Net cost to state: \$60M**

**The state has been out of compliance** with the Ligas Consent Decree since 2017 **& now seeks to end it** while the system remains in crisis



**Thousands of people stuck on the state waitlist for services.**

**Providers report an average of 11,000 staff overtime hours per month.\***

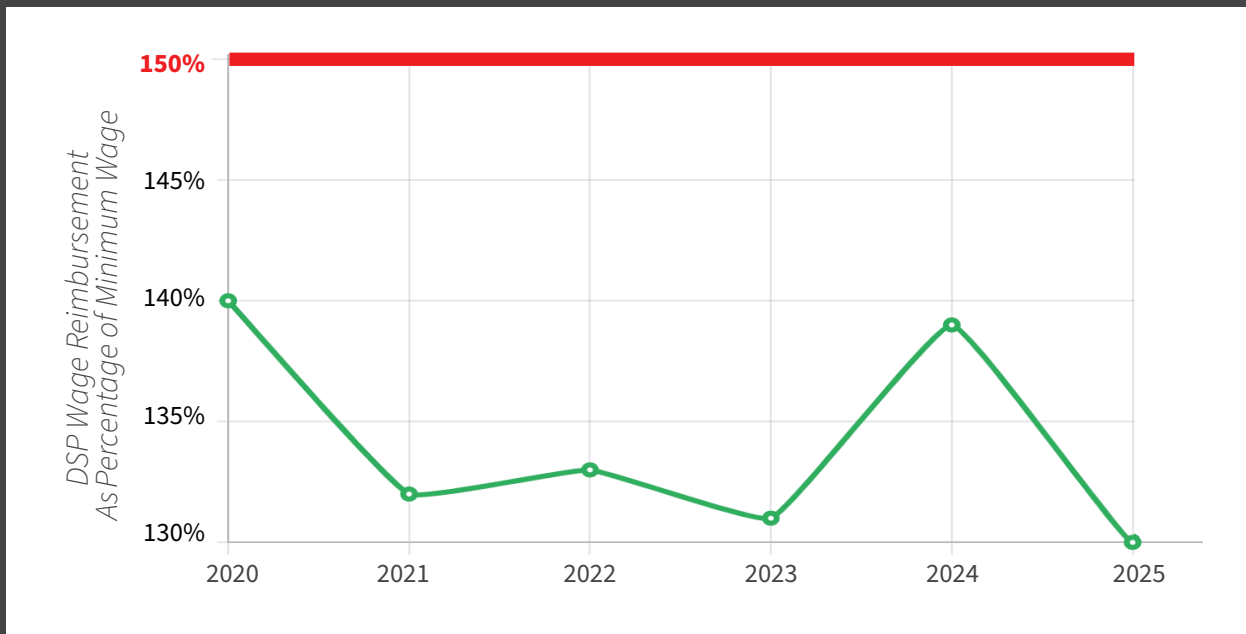
Strains overworked DSPs and overtime is **NOT** reimbursed by the state.

**Illinois ranks 46th when it comes to fiscal effort for community-based services.\*\***

\*Reported by six major IDD provider agencies across the state.

\*\*The State of the States in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Community Fiscal Effort FY 2019-2021.

**Guidehouse Recommends State DSP Wage Reimbursement at 150% of Minimum Wage\*\*\***  
Despite state increases to DSP wages, we are going backwards as the minimum wage rises. It's causing a significant staffing crisis.



\*\*\*The study also recommends implementing separate service rates for the Chicago area, reflective of higher wages and cost of living requirements in the city of Chicago, Cook County and surrounding counties, including counties of Lake, McHenry, Kane, DuPage and Will.

**They Deserve More** is a statewide coalition of more than 90 community provider agencies, trade and advocacy organizations, and friends and family of people with disabilities. The coalition was founded in 2017 to ensure that Illinois meets its obligation to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.