

Support people with disabilities in the FY26 budget...

DO NOT CUT DSP HOURS

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) deserve the opportunity to lead meaningful lives with full participation in their community. Most need support for everything from eating, bathing and administering medication to job and life-skills training. That 24/7 support comes from a statewide network of community provider agencies and their dedicated, trained workforce of direct support professionals (DSPs) who work in group homes (Community Integrated Living Arrangements, or "CILAs").

FY26 Budget Proposal

CILAs depend on state funding to provide these life-changing services.

The Governor's proposed budget includes:

- A \$20 million increase for a 50-cent per hour DSP wage increase
- A "50% rollback of the CILA rate adjustment factor." (See IDHS Budget Briefing p. 41)

What does the "rollback" mean?:

- A cut of nearly 900,000 DSP service hours allocated to people with disabilities
- An elimination of at least 430 DSP positions
- A removal of \$32 million in funding from the community residential system

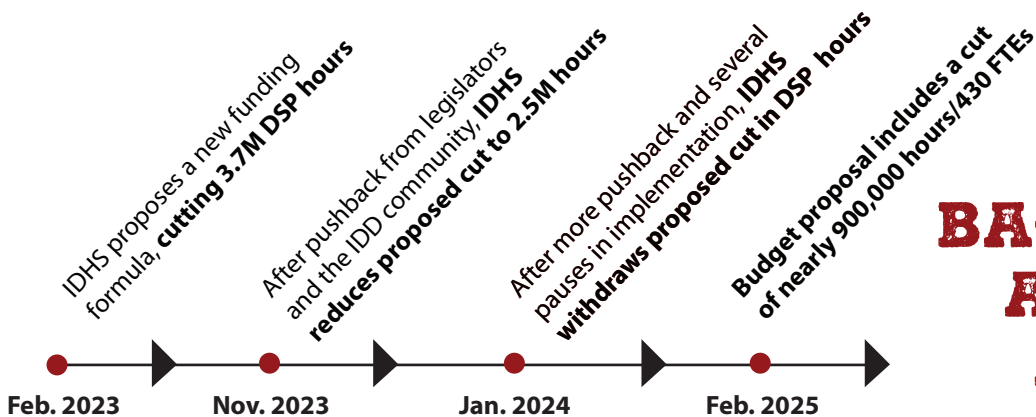
The proposed budget results in a net loss to the community residential system.

Impact

This cut is unsustainable. If it is included in the final FY26 budget:

- People with disabilities currently living in 24 hour shift staff CILAs won't receive essential services and supports
- People with disabilities seeking services will remain stuck on the 16,000+ PUNS waitlist
- People with disabilities seeking to leave state institutions (SODCs) will struggle to find placement in the community system.

History



HOW ARE WE BACK HERE ALL OVER AGAIN???

STILL THEY DESERVE MORE

They Deserve More is a 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 Illinois meets its obligation to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

www.theydeservemore.com  /theydeservemore

