



# STILL THEY DESERVE MORE



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES DESERVE ESSENTIAL SERVICES  
DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DESERVE **BETTER THAN** THE MINIMUM WAGE

## SUPPORT HB 2788 & SB 1690!

(Rep. Laura Faver Dias)

(Sen. David Koehler)

The General Assembly has taken meaningful steps to address the Direct Support Professional (DSP) staffing crisis. Providers are **finally** starting to turn the corner. **Please don't stop now!!!**

### With your help we can:

- **Achieve a sustainable DSP wage**
- **Ensure long term stability** so the support system for people with disabilities doesn't slide back into crisis.

### There are **STILL**:

- **UNFILLED** positions
- **16,000+ on the wait list** -- **NO** ability to expand access to services
- **EXCESSIVE** overtime, **NOT** reimbursed by the state

### SUPPORT THE PATH TO 150% OF MINIMUM WAGE

Despite legislative support, we've gone backwards.

In FY2020: **140%**

Today: **137%**

### A HUGE STEP BACKWARDS

- The Governor's proposed FY26 state budget includes a 50 cent-per-hour DSP wage increase
- However, the budget also includes a 50% rollback of the CILA rate adjustment factor.
- **What does this mean?**
  - Loss of at least 430 DSPs statewide ... dedicated staff who provide 24/7 support to people with disabilities
    - This is a cut of \$32 million from the community residential system



# People with disabilities **STILL** face widespread uncertainty and inconsistency:

**16K+**

people stuck on the waitlist with no services



**50K**

home based caregivers are age 60 or older<sup>1</sup> - What happens when they're gone?

**28%**

of providers have turned away new service referrals due to staffing<sup>2</sup>

**46<sup>th</sup>**

Illinois' rank in support of community-based services<sup>1</sup>



**75%**

of DSPs are women and about half are minorities<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> The State of the States in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Community Fiscal Effort FY 2019-2021 (Published 2024)  
<sup>2</sup> NCI-IDD State of the Workforce in 2023 (Published 2024)

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