

## Invest in New Yorkers With Disabilities Invest in the services and staff they rely on

Decades of inadequate funding left nonprofit provider agencies struggling to pay fair wages, maintain facilities, cover rising costs, and provide quality support for New Yorkers with disabilities.

Recent investment by the state made progress toward addressing this crisis and stabilizing the system of care, but without sustained investment, that progress will be lost.



## NEW YORKERS WITH DISABILITIES NEED YOUR SUPPORT FOR



### A 4% Targeted Inflationary Increase

to ensure funding accounts for the increased cost of living and providing services



### The Careforce Affordability Initiative

to support affordable housing, childcare and healthcare for direct care staff

## Investment Works!

Recent investments have begun to stabilize our care system, revitalize supports, and increase staff wages.

Most providers used this funding to increase staff wages.  
**As direct care pay increases, staffing improves.**

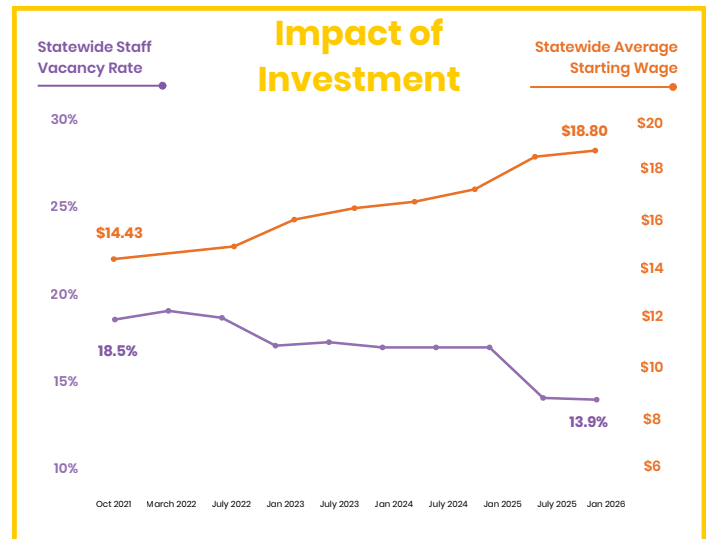
Investment in services for New Yorkers with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities still lags behind inflation over the past 5 years alone.

**Further investment is needed just to cover inflation.**

Inadequate investment drives staffing shortages, creates inequity for direct care staff, and reduces access to critical services and support for New Yorkers with disabilities.

Investment has finally made progress.

**To sustain that progress, investment MUST be ongoing.**



# INVEST IN PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. INVEST IN STAFF. INVEST IN EQUITY!

## 4% Inflationary Increase

A 4% Targeted Inflationary Increase (TII) will adjust Medicaid funding for inflation, and make progress toward a strong and sustainable system of support.

### Why is it needed?

- If Medicaid rates don't cover rising costs, providers can't sustain services, pay fair wages, maintain facilities, or ensure quality care.
- Basic costs have increased **almost 25% since** 2020. Last year, inflation drove up basic costs by 2.7%.
- Despite recent investments, funding for the state's system of support for New Yorkers with disabilities consistently falls short of covering inflation.
- A 2.7% increase is the BARE MINIMUM required to keep our system from slipping backward.
- A 4% increase will cover inflation over the past year and continue the progress New York has made to strengthen our system of care.

### Where do State Leaders stand today?

Governor Hochul only included a 1.7% increase in her executive budget proposal – not even enough to maintain the status quo.

The legislature recognized **the bare minimum is not enough**, and included a 4% increase in BOTH one-house budgets

For their commitment to be meaningful, the **full 4% increase must be NON-NEGOTIABLE** in the final budget.



FUND THE FULL CARE SYSTEM

4%

The full spectrum of support includes, food, transportation, wages and benefits, utilities, home maintenance, technology, medical supplies, and more.

## Careforce Affordability Initiatives

These proposals aim to make housing, healthcare and childcare more accessible and affordable for New York's direct care staff, to support our workforce and improve equity.

### Housing Affordability

Housing Affordability Initiatives would provide low-income housing preference, employer-assisted housing grants, down payment assistance and interest rate reductions for direct care staff.

### Childcare Affordability

Enhancing the New York Child and Dependent Care Credit would make childcare more affordable, support workforce participation, and improve financial stability for working families.

### Healthcare Affordability

The Healthcare Affordability Initiative would provide a \$2,500 credit per eligible employee for agencies to enhance health benefits or reduce the out-of-pocket cost for employees.

### Why is it needed?

- Half of direct care staff report experiencing food and housing insecurity.
- More than half are the primary caregiver for at least one child.
- Rising benefit costs undo progress to increase wages.

To support the needs of others, staff must be able to meet their own basic needs.

We  
MATTER!