



New York State Fiscal Year 2027–28

BUDGET PRIORITY IN FOCUS: **Healthcare Enhancement Program**

OFFSET RISING HEALTHCARE COSTS.

Reinstate dedicated funding to help providers cover health insurance costs.



2027–28 BUDGET PRIORITIES

for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

- ↗ **Keep funding in step with rising costs** · 3.4% TII
- 👥 **Give frontline staff a lasting raise** · Careforce Wage Investment
- ▶️ **📍 Ease rising health insurance costs · Healthcare Enhancement**

HEALTH COSTS ARE CLIMBING FAST

Health insurance is the largest cost after wages for many providers.

**HEALTH INSURANCE
COSTS SINCE 2023**

+31.9%

**TOTAL FIELDWIDE
COSTS IN 2026**

\$1.1B

Premiums are rising faster than inflation. Every dollar spent on them can't go to wages or services.

WHAT THE HEALTHCARE ENHANCEMENT DOES

\$2,500
per employee

Each provider receives funding equal to \$2,500 per employee, dedicated to offsetting the agency's rising health insurance costs.

Learn more at thearcny.org/budget

WHY HEALTHCARE ENHANCEMENT MATTERS

RISING PREMIUMS FORCE HARD CHOICES.

When health insurance costs rise, providers have three options: **pass costs on to staff, reduce the quality of coverage, or pull funding from programs and services.** Each one hurts people with IDD or the staff who support them.

STAFF NEED COVERAGE THEY CAN AFFORD.

A strong workforce needs more than a paycheck. **Higher out-of-pocket costs and weaker coverage negate the wage progress New York has made.** To support others, staff must be able to meet their own basic needs.

80%

of The Arc New York Chapters had to increase employee out-of-pocket health costs in the last two years.

PREMIUMS SHOULDN'T ERODE CARE.

When providers absorb rising premiums instead of passing them on to staff, **funding is pulled from the programs and services people with IDD rely on.**

IT WAS FUNDED, THEN ELIMINATED.

New York funded the Healthcare Enhancement Program from 2004 through 2011 to help providers with employee health costs. **Reinstating it would restore support that worked, updated for today's costs.**

IT PROTECTS PROGRESS.

✓ Past progress

Five years of State investment

📈 👤 This year's priorities

3.4% TII and Careforce

💛 **The Healthcare Enhancement shields both from rising health costs.**

**INVEST IN PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.
INVEST IN STAFF. INVEST IN EQUITY.**

INVEST IN
us!