Grow Capacity

To meet the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) across the state, we must ensure there are adequate services and networks in ALL communities, including small rural areas, that meet both the physical and cultural needs of the I/DD population.

When we lack adequate capacity:

Individuals do not receive the care they need, which can lead to isolation, crisis, and potential hospitalization, incarceration, or other inappropriate settings.
Families may have to quit work, face financial crises, and experience separation.
Agencies cannot adequately serve new clients and risk going out of business.

WE NEED A PLAN TO:

Grow and Strengthen Agency Network Capacity

Due to inadequate rates and workforce shortages, agencies struggle to provide services to all individuals in need. People may have a "service authorization" but are unable to find an agency or individual provider to deliver the service. This issue affects programs such as Supported Living, Employment, Community Inclusion, respite, and other community-based services. We need to ensure that our network is strong by increasing rates so that individuals are adequately served.

Expand the Availability of Meaningful Activities

Individuals with I/DD need opportunities to engage socially with both the general community and their peers. They need opportunities to continue to learn, grow, and contribute. Washinton offers some services (e.g. Employment, Respite, Community Engagement, and Community Inclusion) that help meet these needs, but they are not sufficiently robust to meaningfully fill a person's day. We need a plan to expand the range and amount of services available to individuals.

Links to information that supports community capacity building:

- [Capacity Building Funds for Supported Employment and Community Inclusion Services](#)

- [Tiered Rates for Respite](#)

- [Increase Provider Rates to Stabilize Supported Living](#)

- [Lowering the Age of Eligibility for Supported Employment & Community Inclusion](#)