



**February 5, 2024**

**Supported Living:** *How can I get the support I need to live in my home?*

What is Supported Living? Supported Living is the primary model that provides residential services for individuals with developmental disabilities. Supported Living agencies serve nearly 4000 individuals in their own homes, which could be an apartment or a house in a neighborhood. They may or may not live with other individuals with I/DD depending on their needs and preferences. They receive person-centered care, including behavioral, social, and mental health supports that maximize their quality of life. Care may range from a few hours a month to 24 hours a day. The amount of care received is determined by an assessment that determines the individual's daily rate. The agency then implements the plan of care and provides the staffing.

Over the last few years, inflation has increased the financial pressures on providers causing the cost of staffing, transportation, health care insurance, and nursing care to increase significantly. This has caused staffing shortages. Individuals with I/DD often do not do well with a lot of change, so consistent staff is important for them to feel secure. Because of funding shortfalls, workforce issues and the high turnover, fewer clients are being served, while some of our most vulnerable citizens and their families wait for much-needed services.

**Things to watch for this session:**

Increase Supported Living Provider Rates