



March 5, 2025

Topic: Community Living: What are the services & supports needed to live successfully in the community?

Summary: People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) deserve and have the right to live in the community and have the services and support needed to lead a meaningful life. It is everyone's civil right, including those with I/DD, to be able to live in their community of choice. This includes but is not limited to finding housing that is accessible and affordable for people on limited fixed incomes. This means having reliable transportation services to help people with I/DD get to where they need to go. Finally, this means having adequate services to assist people with i/dd in the home, at school, at work, or in the community.

What is Needed:

- Washington State has relied too long on segregated and restrictive settings such as Residential Habilitation Centers (DD institutions). Only 454 individuals still live in DD Institutions. People can be served better and more cost-effectively in the community.
- We must have a robust provider network that hires high-quality direct service professionals. We must ensure providers are paid an adequate rate to keep them in business.
- Medicaid is a critical lifeline for those with I/DD and their families. We need to work together to help all elected leaders and our community members understand what services are paid for by Medicaid and why these services should be protected. No Cuts to Medicaid!!!

Action Steps:

- Tell the State Legislators to support [HB 1472](#) and [SB 5393](#) in their budget discussions. We need to shut down Rainer School and Yakima Valley School.
- [Tell State Legislators to support HB 1130, the Waiver Prioritization bill](#)
- [Tell State Legislators to support I/DD services and supports in their final budget.](#)
- [Tell Congress not to cut Medicaid it matters!!](#)
- Contact your friends, family members & neighbors to inform them about I/DD issues.

People with I/DD belong in the community

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