



# 2025 LEGISLATIVE NOTEBOOK

Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Issues



# WHO ARE INDIVIDUALS WITH I/DD?

- Intellectual or developmental disability
- Lifelong conditions, such as autism, Down syndrome or Cerebral Palsy
- Affect a person's ability to think, learn, and develop skills at the same rate as others.
- Present from birth or early childhood
- Often need support for everyday activities
- Family members, friends, neighbors, classmates and co-workers

*RCW 71.A disability attributable to intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or another neurological or other condition of an individual found by the secretary to be closely related to an intellectual disability or to require treatment similar to that required for individuals with intellectual disabilities, which disability originates before the individual*





# WHAT DO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WANT?

- To live, have access to, and belong in the community
- The opportunity to learn and grow
- A safe, affordable, accessible inclusive place to live
- Meaningful things to do, including real jobs for real pay
- To be healthy and have access to appropriate healthcare, including mental and behavioral health
- Happy, healthy relationships
- Appropriate, adequate supports available when needed
- A transparent, easy-to-use service system
- Economic stability

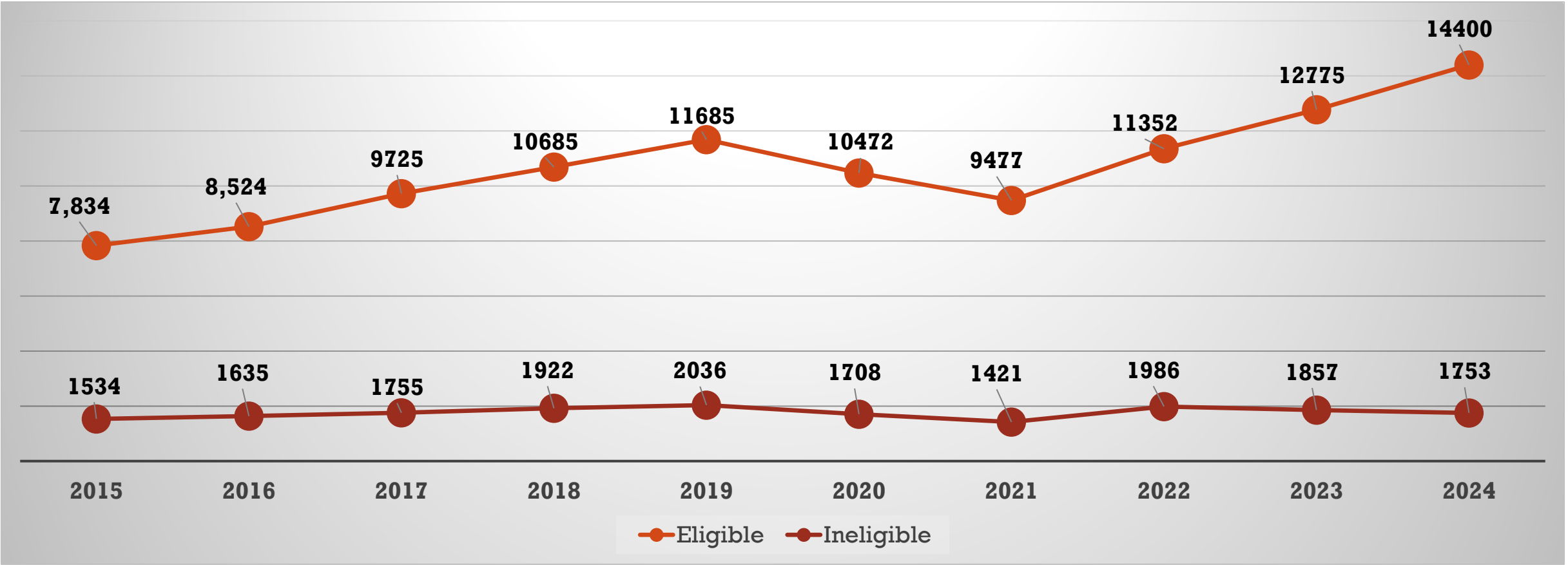
.....The same things that everyone else wants



# DDA SNAPSHOT

- 1-3% of the population has an intellectual or developmental disability (170,000)
- **61,272 DDA clients**
  - **34,797** children
  - **29,328** adults
- Of those **adults**, **16,306 (55.5%)** live with and receive care from a **parent** or a **relative**.

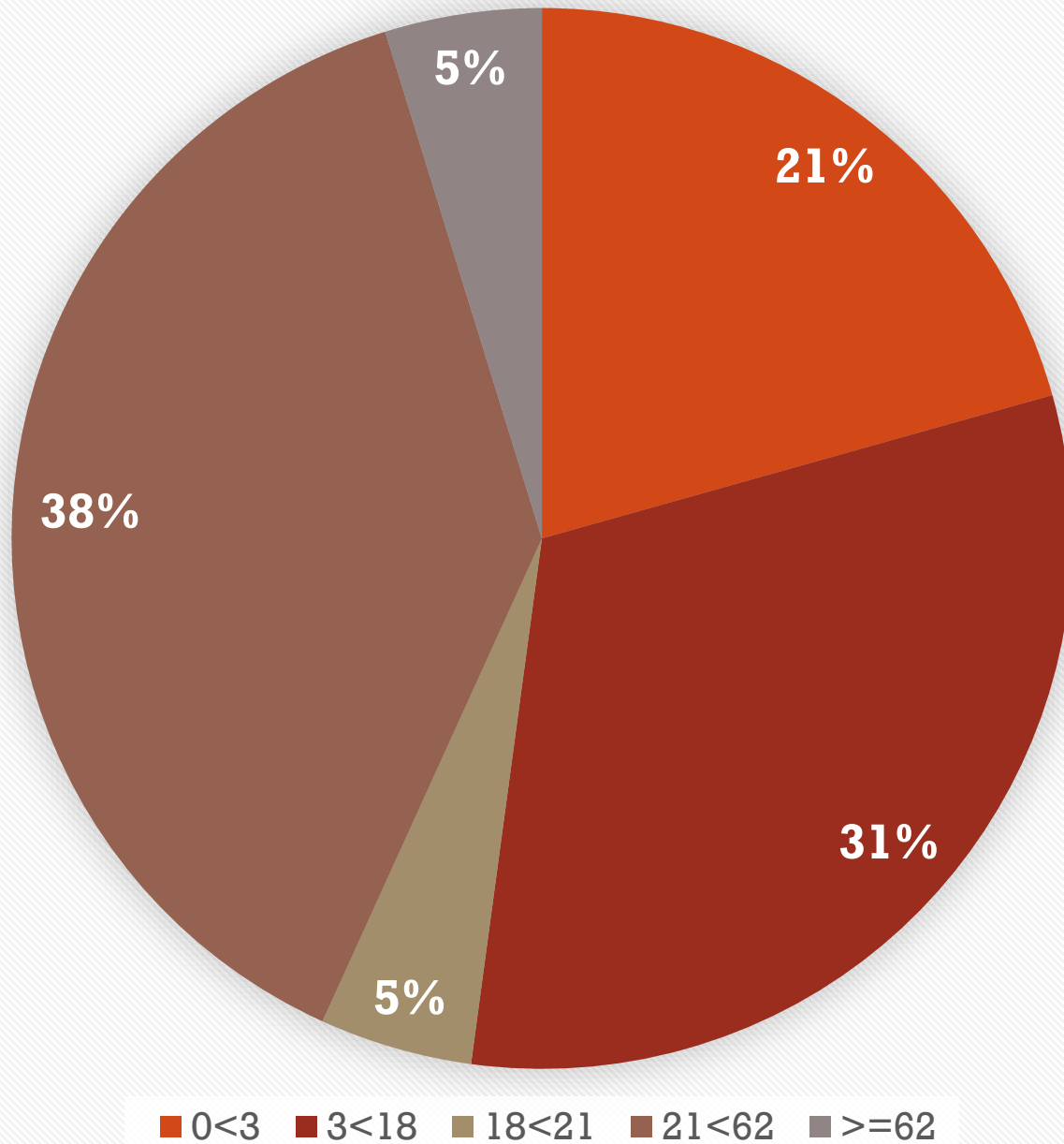




# ELIGIBILITY



# WHO DDA SERVES BY AGE



DDA JULY 2024 Caseload and Cost  
Report



# WASHINGTON STATE RANKS 38<sup>TH</sup> IN PER CAPITA SPENDING FOR I/DD SERVICES



WASHINGTON  
STATE

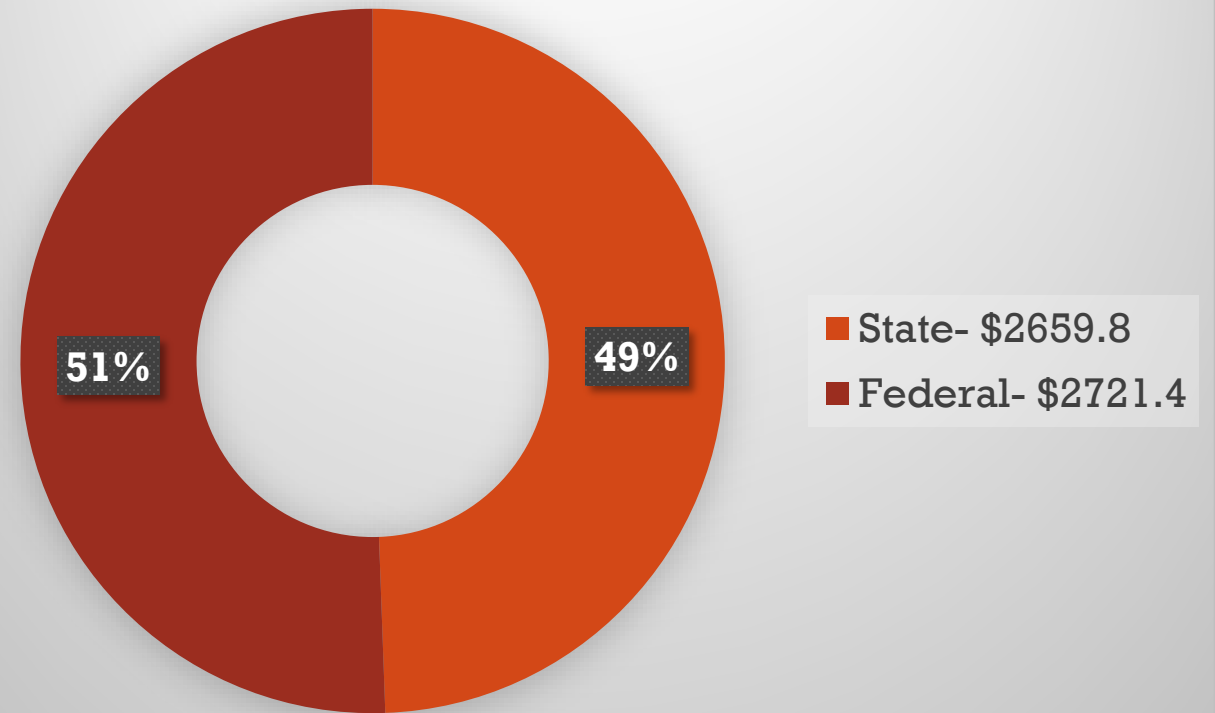
- 19,138 DDA clients receive NO paid services

DDA JULY 2024 Caseload and Cost Report



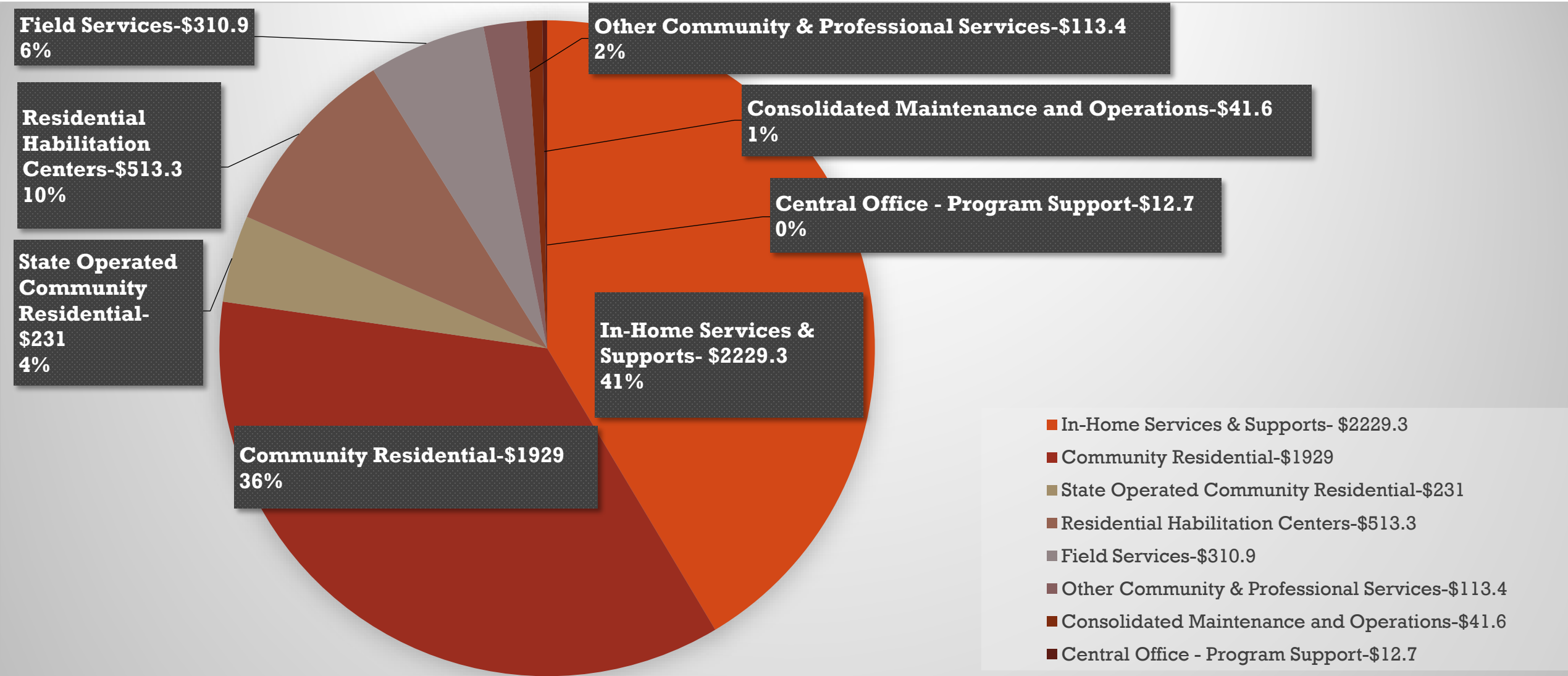


## State Funds are Federally Matched



Total: \$5,381.2 million

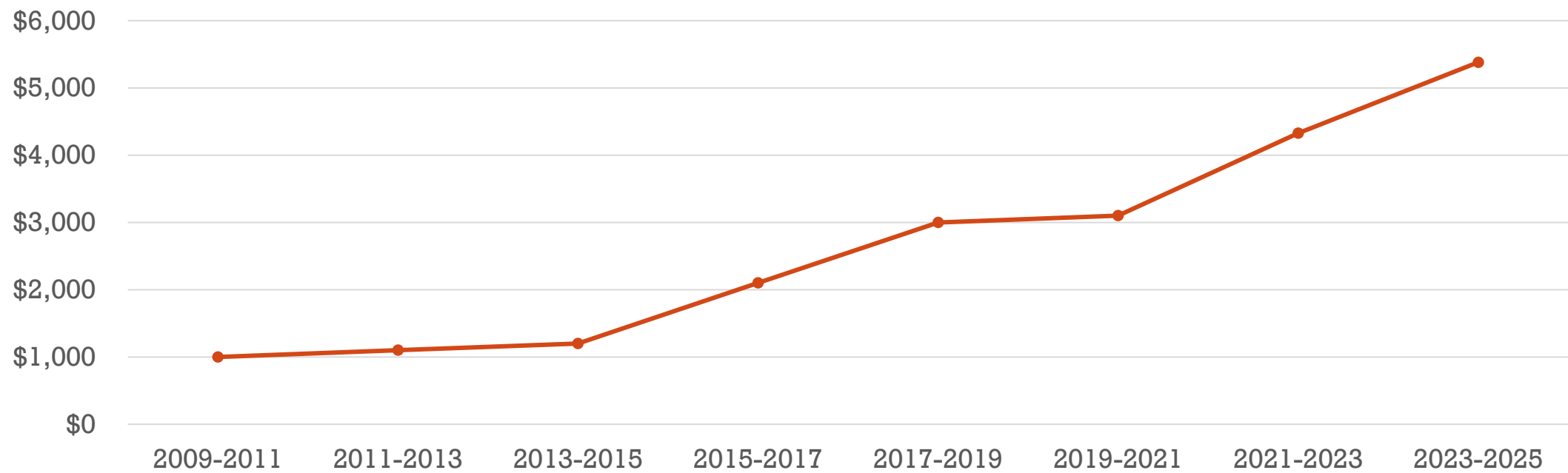
# DDA'S BUDGET



**TOTAL: \$5381.2 Million**

**\$2,659.8 Million State Funds, \$2721.4 Million Federal Funds**



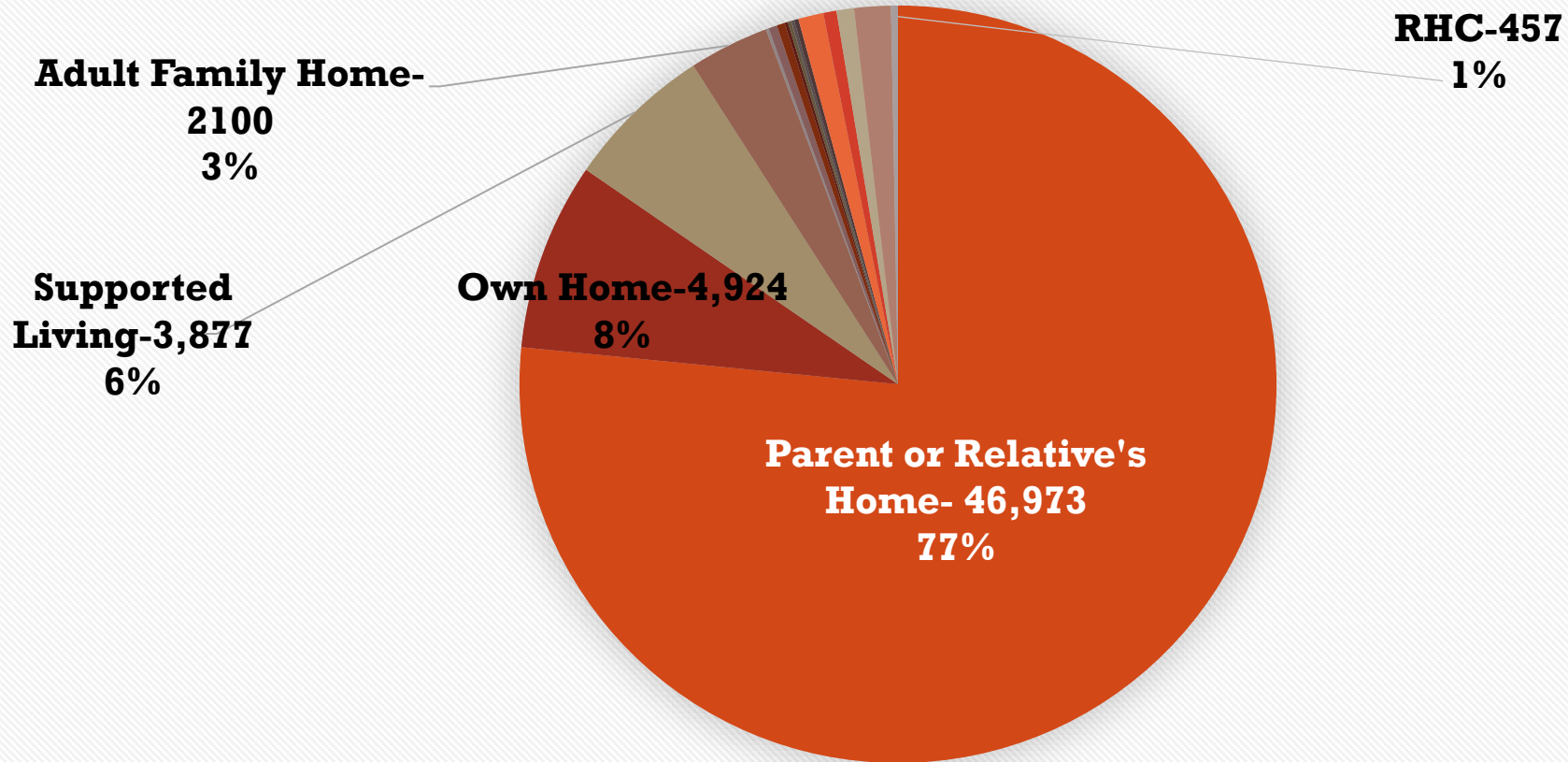


In Millions

# DDA BUDGET GROWTH



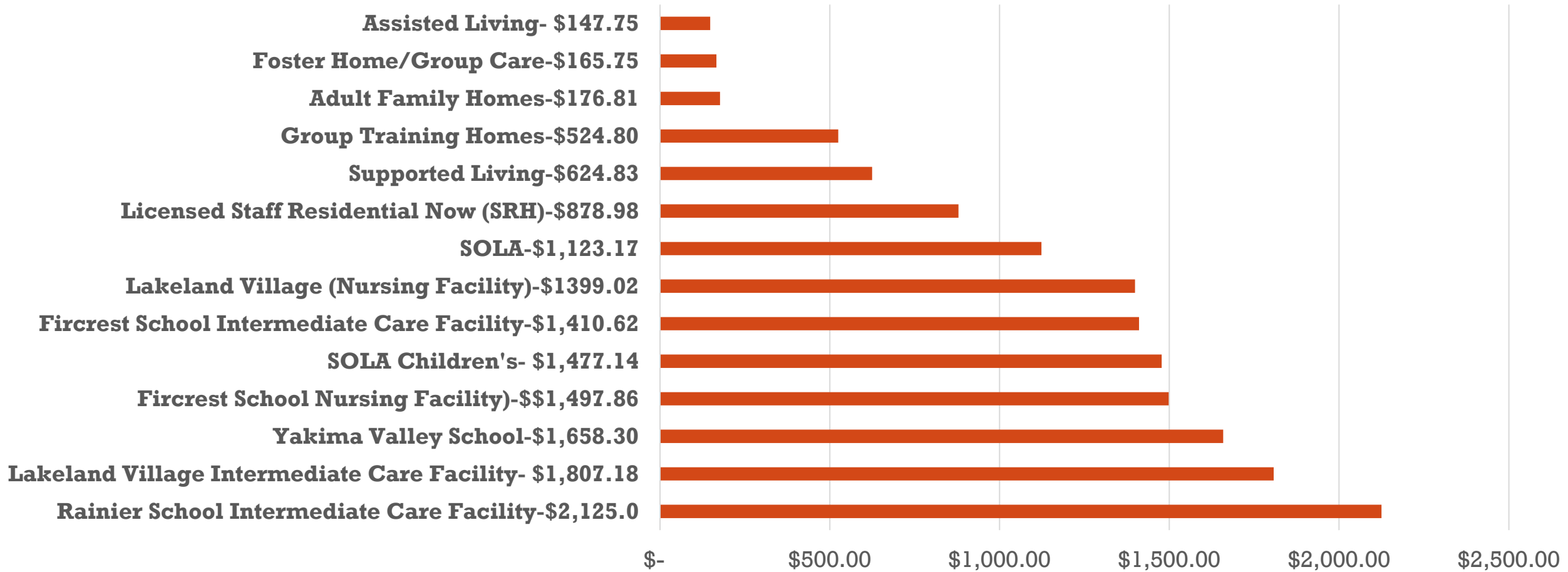
# Where Do People Live?



- Parent or Relative's Home- 46,973
- Adult Family Home-2100
- SOLA-Adult-212
- SOLA- Child-10
- DCYF- Foster Care-660
- Other/Unknown-959

- Own Home-4,924
- Alternative Living- 75
- Companion Home-83
- Assisted Living-75
- Other Facilities-345
- Homeless-181

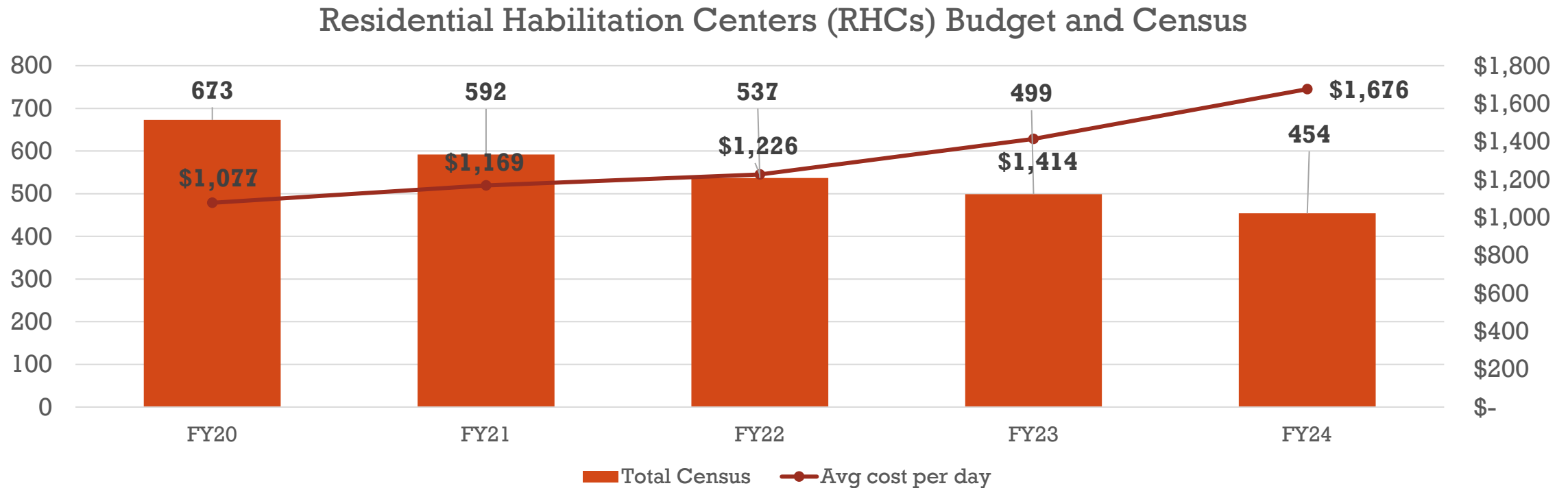
- Supported Living-3,877
- DDA Group Home-224
- Adult Residential Care-85
- DDA Out of Home Services-114
- RHC-457



# COST PER DAY BY RESIDENTIAL SETTING



# RHC CENSUS AND COST



**Approximately 1% of DDA clients live in an RHC**

**The RHCs are 10% of the DDA budget**

*CMS has emphasized the “intermediate” aspect of institutional care. It is the responsibility of the RHC not to house and protect people, but rather to be actively preparing them for leaving the RHC and integrating into the community*



# HOME & COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES: WHAT'S A WAIVER & WHAT ARE YOU WAIVING?

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers are set of Medicaid Services that are available for a specific population of people

Waives services in an institution to receive services in the community

Children: Waives the parental income to become Medicaid qualified

WA currently has 5 DDA Medicaid Waivers

Waiver services are state specific

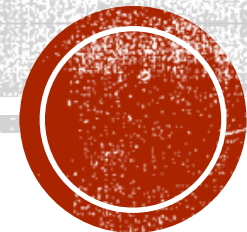
The number of DDA Waiver slots are capped

Waivers funding is federally matched 50/50

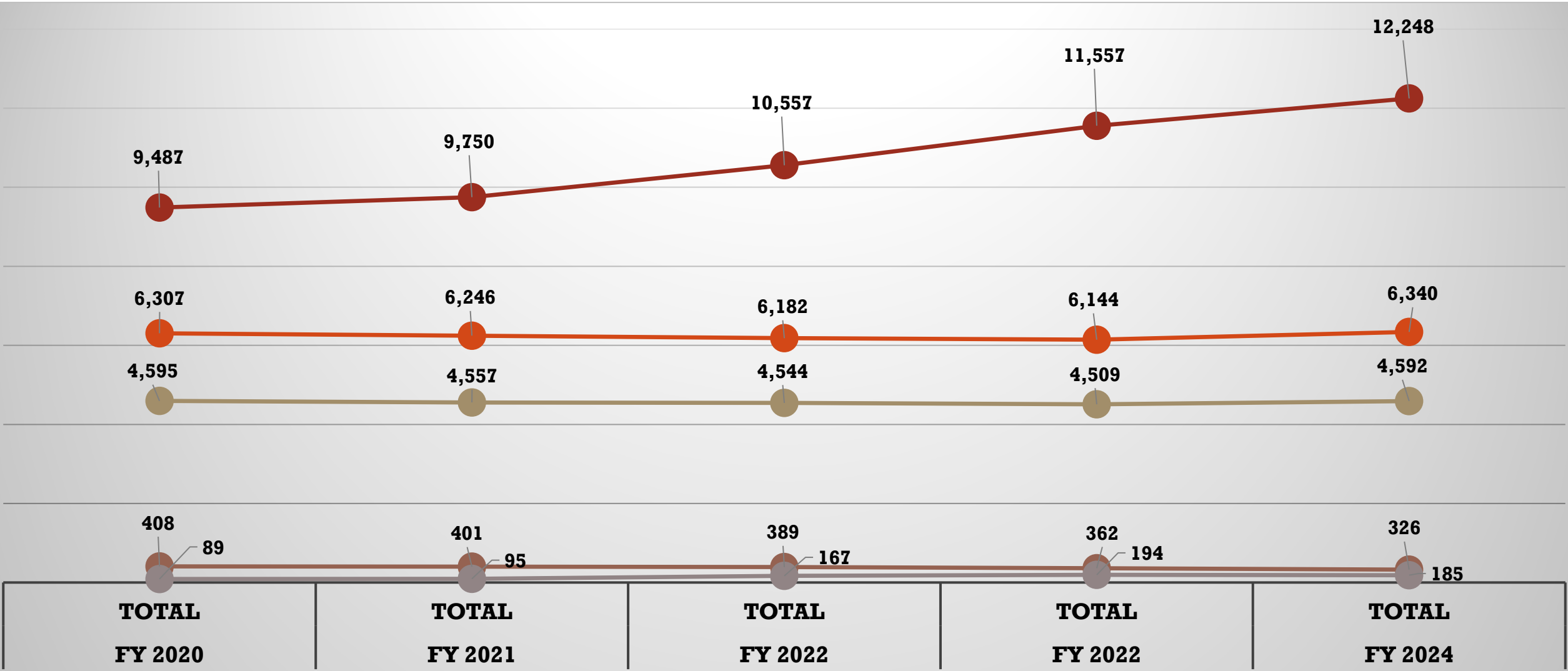


	FY 2024			Waiver Capacity
Waiver	Adult	Child	Total	
Individual and Family Services (IFS)	2,162	4,178	6,340	8000
Basic Plus	11,375	873	12,248	13,000
Core	4,547	45	4,592	5702
Community Protection	326		326	504
Children's In-home Intensive Behavioral Supports	48	137	185	200
Total	18,458	5,233	23,691	27,406

# WAIVERS BY THE NUMBERS



# WAIVER GROWTH





**Community First Choice, Medicaid  
and CHIP Personal Care**

16,361

\$4,899

**Individual and Family Services  
Waiver**

4,606

\$143

**Basic Plus Waiver**

9,850

\$1,020

**CIIBS\***

105

\$2,478

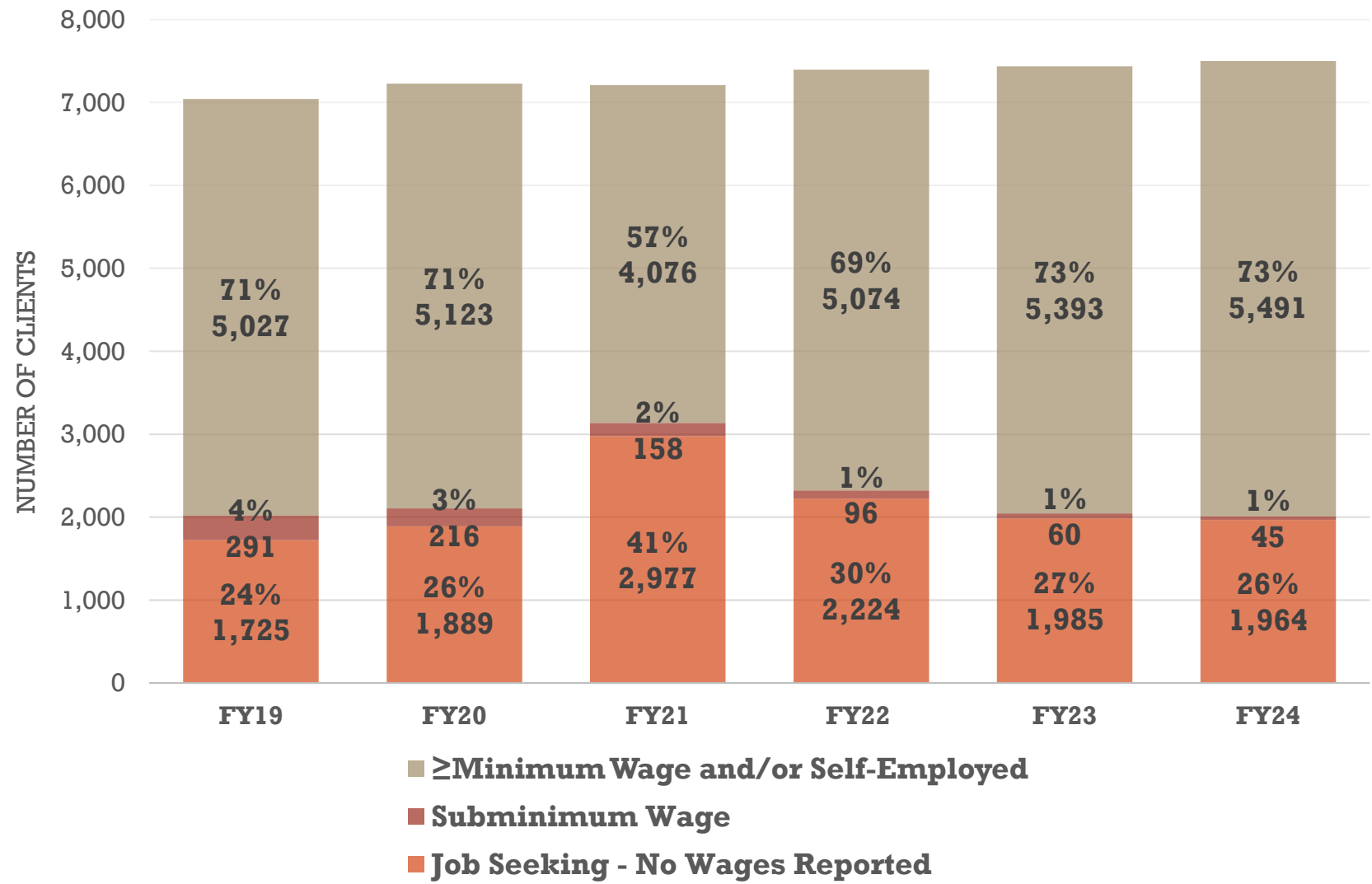
**Core Waiver Residential\*\***

3,828

\$17,709

■ Average Monthly Paid Caseload ■ Average Monthly Cost per Client

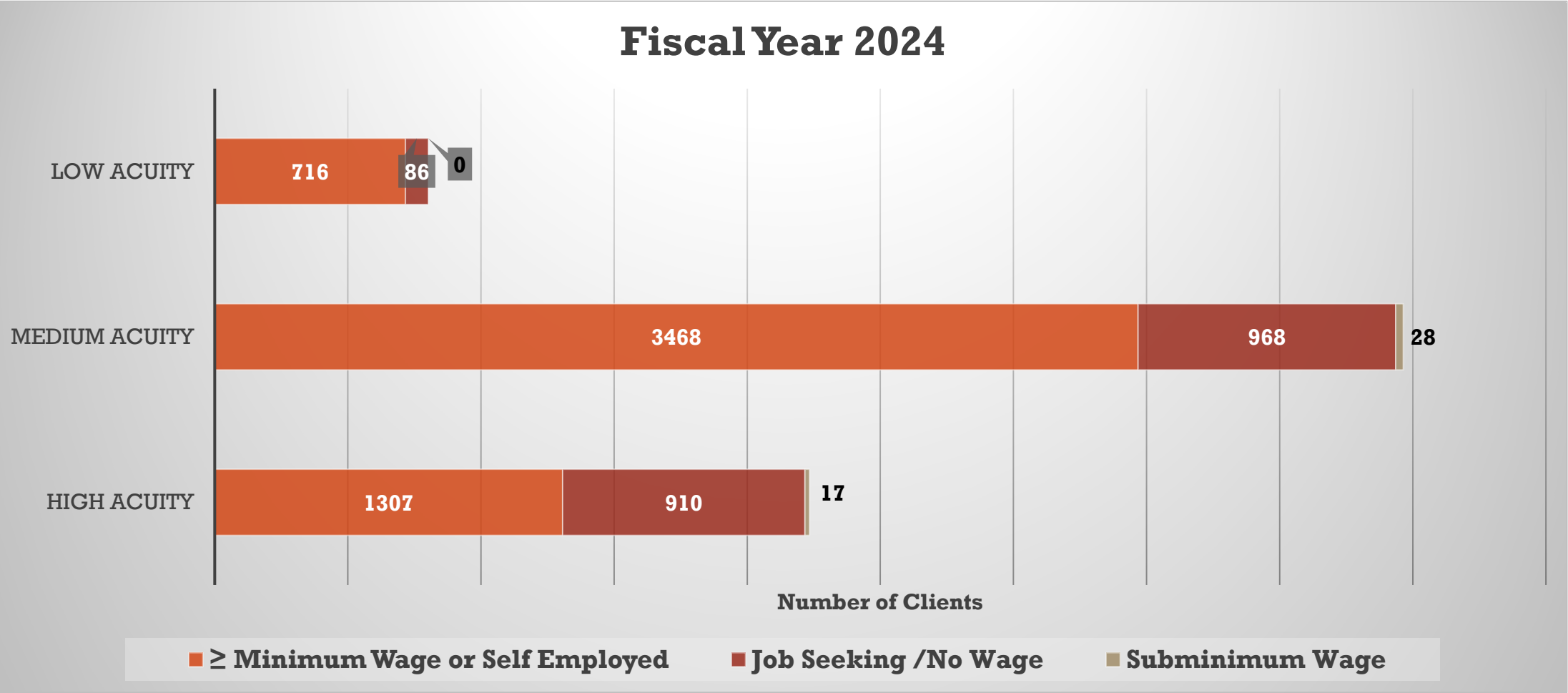
# PEOPLE WORKING

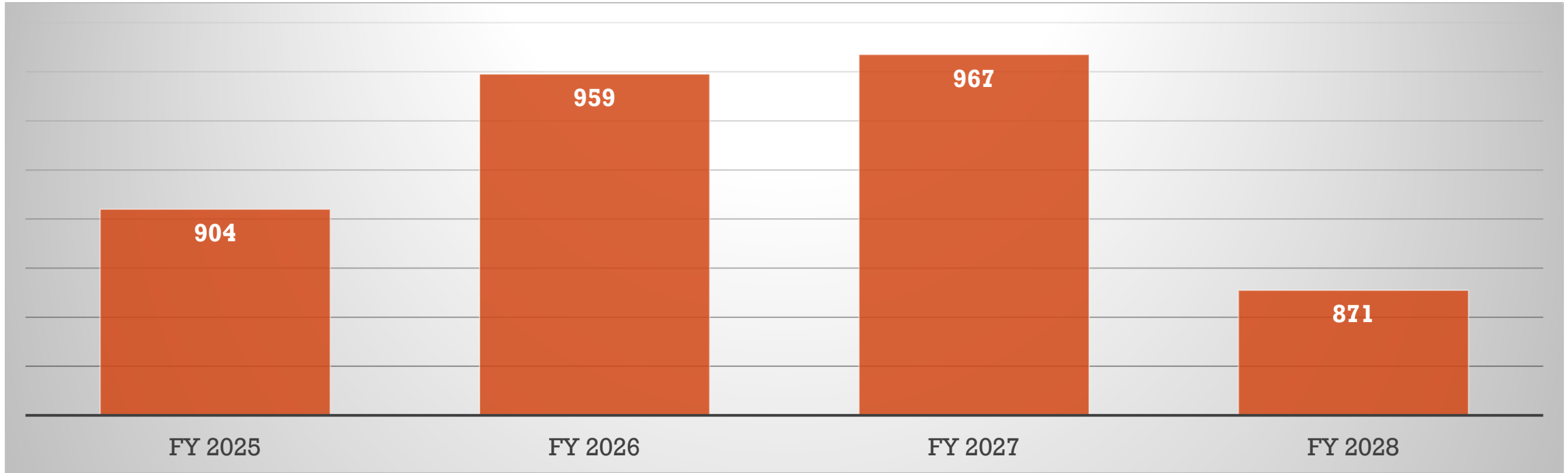




Service	Average Support Hours Per Week	Average Work Hours Per Week	Average Wages Per Week
Individual Employment	2.4	10	180.7
Group Supported Employment	2.4	7.6	125.78

# WAGES & ACUITY LEVEL





**TOTAL: 3701**

**PROJECTED TRANSITION AGE STUDENTS**



A photograph of two women in a yoga studio. The woman in the foreground is sitting cross-legged, looking off to the side. She has dark hair in a bun and is wearing a red long-sleeved shirt. The woman in the background is also sitting cross-legged, looking down. She is wearing a grey tank top. The studio has large windows and a wooden floor.

# ACCESS TO THE COMMUNITY

Community Inclusion  
Average Support Hours  
Per Week: 2.2

Number of Individuals  
served: 2526

# CHALLENGES



# LACK OF CAPACITY





# LACK OF CAPACITY LEADS TO CRISIS

- **Individuals**
  - don't get the care they need
  - end up isolated
  - end up in the hospital or jail
- **Families**
  - have to quit work
  - go into financial crisis
  - are separated
- **Agencies**
  - can't adequately serve new people
  - go out of business
- **Students**
  - don't get an appropriate education
  - Are isolated and/or restrained
  - get sent out of state



**WORKFORCE**



**LACK OF APPROPRIATELY AND  
ADEQUATELY TRAINED  
PROFESSIONALS**



**LOW WAGES/RATES**





- Healthcare
- Mental Health
- Behavioral Health
- Employment
- Local Community Programs
- Homecare
- Residential Services
- Childcare
- Education



# HOUSING

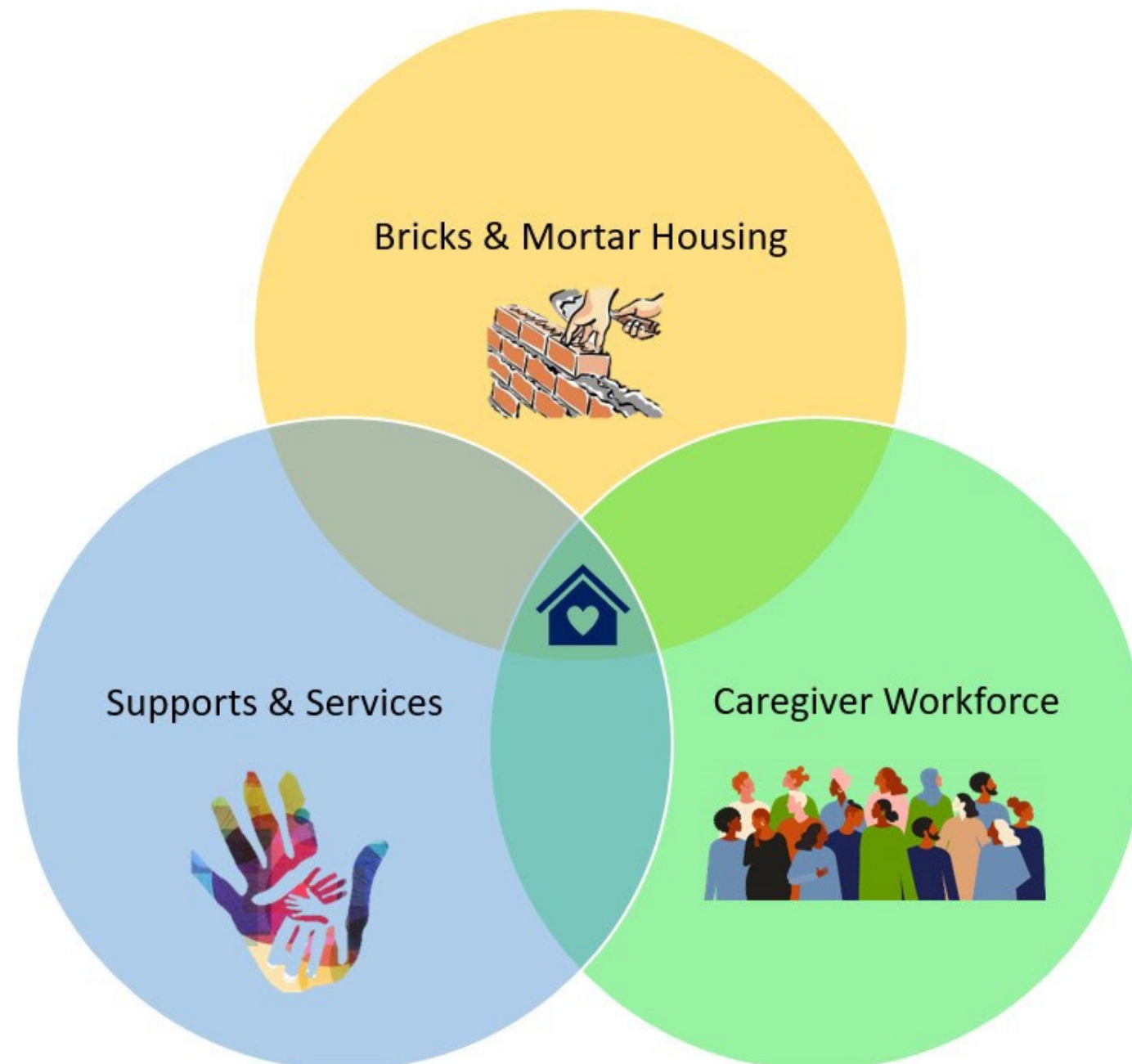


# OUR POPULATION

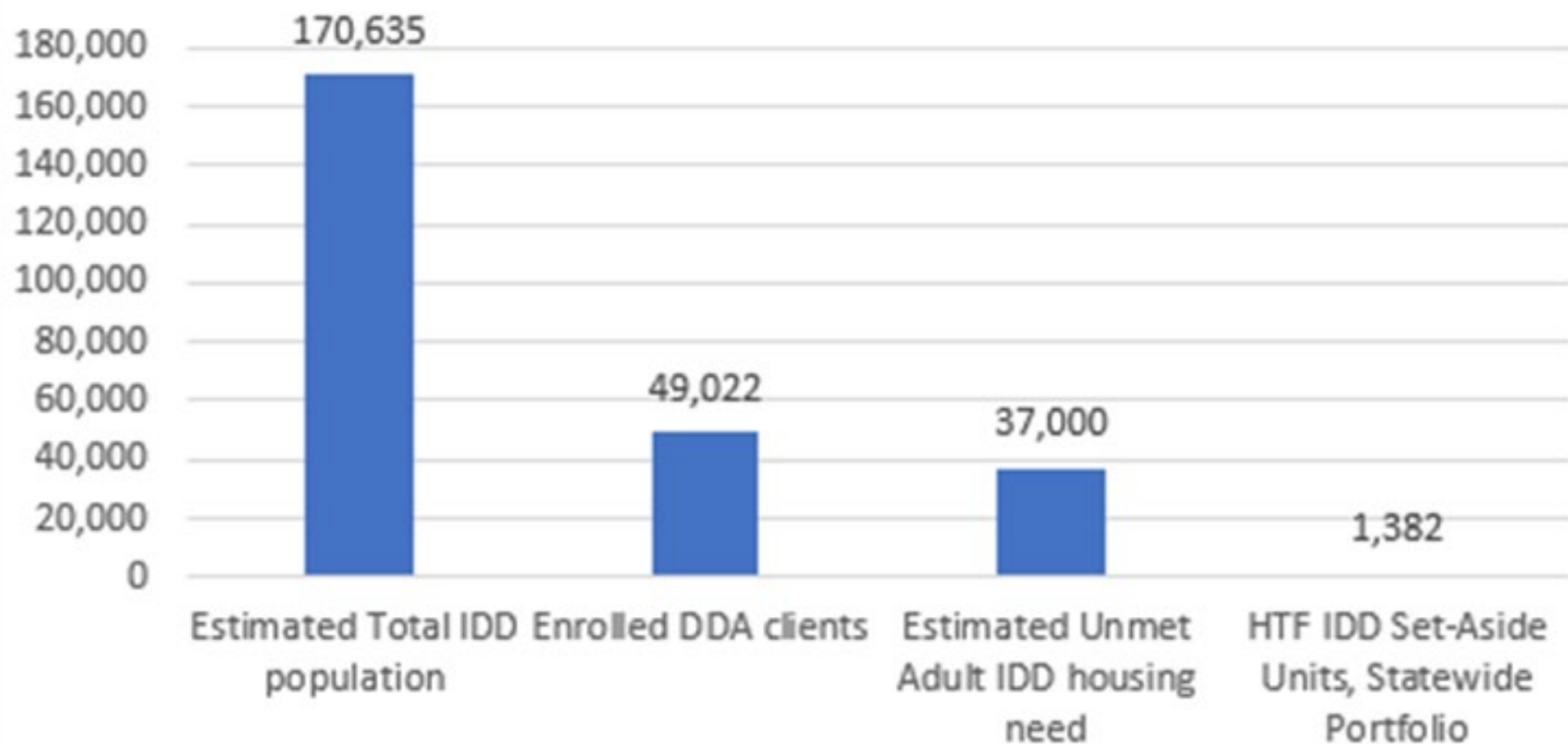


- Extremely low-income SSI= \$967 a month
- \$2000 asset limit SSI
- 30-40% of people with IDD have a concurrent mental health diagnosis –
- About 15% of people with IDD served in Supported Living need to live alone/have 1 person in the home





## 2021 Washington State IDD Population and Housing at a Glance





# PRICED OUT

- There is no United States housing market in which a person living solely on Supplemental Security Income can afford a safe, decent apartment without rental assistance.

*\*Technical Assistance  
Collaborative, 2024  
Priced Out report*





# WHAT IS NEEDED?

- Affordable
- Accessible
- Integrated





# FAMILY SUPPORTS

- Families are the long-term care system for individuals with I/DD
- **16,306 (55.5%) Adult DDA clients** live with and receive care from a **parent** or a **relative**
- It is estimated that more than 2000 individuals over the age of 40 are living with parent

# FAMILIES NEED

- Affordable, Accessible Reliable Childcare and after-school programs
- Adequate funding for supports that give individuals meaningful things to do while family members work which provides financial stability to the family
- An occasional break from caregiving (respite)
- A reliable network of well trained, care providers
- Timely and easy to use services
- Information & support
- Assistance navigating systems



# AGING FAMILY CAREGIVERS NEED

- Support to plan for the future
- Assurance there will be things in place when they are no longer able to provide care





# EDUCATION REFORM IS NEEDED

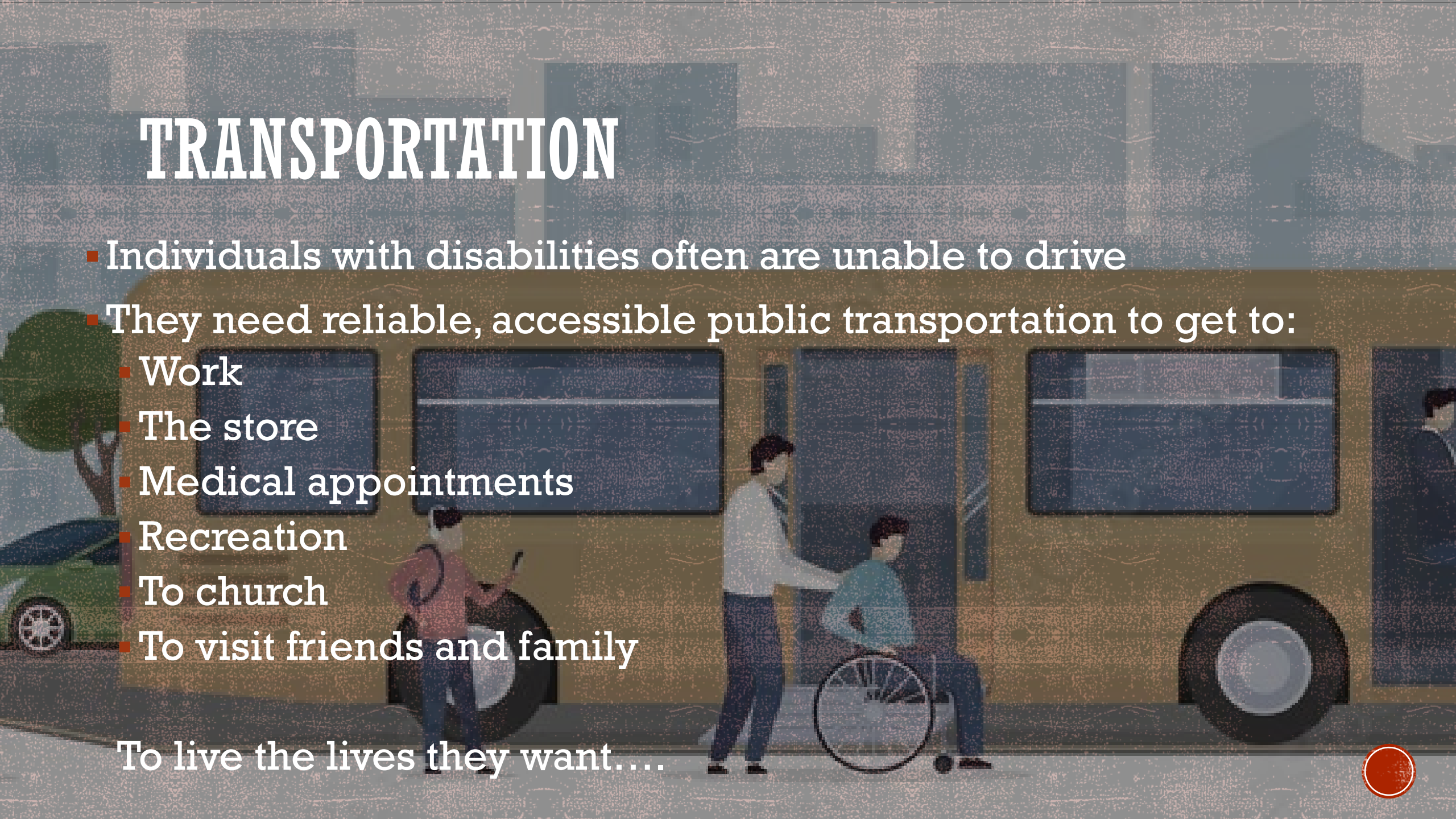
- Washington is 44<sup>th</sup> in the nation in use of inclusive practices
- Washington continues to send many of our high acuity students with I/DD out of state.
- Washington continues to restrain and isolate students with disabilities disproportionately
- Washington continues to place a funding “cap” on school districts



# TRANSPORTATION

- Individuals with disabilities often are unable to drive
- They need reliable, accessible public transportation to get to:
  - Work
  - The store
  - Medical appointments
  - Recreation
  - To church
  - To visit friends and family

To live the lives they want....



# PROTECT DD SERVICES



- Individuals need these services to live
- The state has a moral obligation to ensure this population is cared for
- Individuals with I/DD receive services from many agencies, so they end up taking multiple cuts
- Equal cuts across state agencies are not equitable for people with I/DD

#Cuts #Cause #Crisis

