

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Tell Legislators to Increase Funding for the Supports for Community Living (SCL) Waiver.

Fight for care for Kentuckians with disabilities!

Help Give Direct Support Professionals the Pay They Deserve!

TAKE ACTION and **CALL** your Elected Officials **TODAY!**

Ask your legislators to support a **25% funding increase** to guarantee adequate care and services for Kentuckians with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Here's the number:

1-800-372-7181

(Kentucky Legislative Hotline)

When the operator answers, leave a short, simple, and clear message...

"This message is for Senator/Representative [your Senator/Representative's name]. My name is [your name] and I live in [your city/town/county]."

"Please support a 25% funding increase for all SCL reimbursement rates, which will benefit Kentuckians with disabilities and their caregivers, by giving Direct Support Professionals the pay they deserve. Funding for DSPs has not been increased since 2004, leaving the majority underpaid and overworked. The current funding for SCL services is unsustainable; a funding increase after 14 years is critical.

Please make increasing SCL reimbursement rates a priority in the 2018/2019 Biennial budget!"

WE NEED AS MANY CALLS AS POSSIBLE!

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR STAFF, FRIENDS, and FAMILIES!

KEY MESSAGES YOU CAN USE TO TALK ABOUT OUR ISSUE

- Medicaid waiver **rates have not been increased since 2004—14 YEARS!**—however the cost of living has increased over 27% in the same period.
- Limited funding means limited care for individuals with disabilities. Maintaining the status quo puts thousands of Kentuckians with disabilities at risk of being displaced or re-institutionalized.
- DSPs ensure the health, safety, and well-being of Kentucky's most vulnerable citizens. Yet the average DSP makes \$9 per hour or less, causing many to leave the field to pursue careers with better compensation.
- 30% of DSPs rely on Medicaid for their own healthcare, despite full-time employment. The deficiency in pay and benefits is creating a shortage in critical staff, causing businesses that provide DSPs to close shop.
- The only way to ensure Kentuckians with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive the support they need, is by increasing all SCL rates by 25% so that providers can continue offering these vital services.

Need help identifying your elected representatives?

Visit <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/Legislators.htm> and search for your Legislator by county.

Please contact both your Senator and Representative.