

American Rescue Plan

# FUNDING RATE INCREASES TO SUPPORT PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY & AUTISM (ID/A)

Invest \$541M into Fee Schedule Rates to fund Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) wages which would establish equal pay for equal work with PA state centers.

The current average wage for a Residential Services Aide (comparable to a community DSP) at the PA state centers is \$18.66/hour. The most recently published Pennsylvania DSP compensation studies reported the average wages for DSPs between \$13.20/hour and \$14.22/hour. Turnover and vacancy rates are 2-3 times higher in community programs than in state centers.

## Funding the Fix

There is a total of \$434M, or 80% of the amount needed, that is available **RIGHT NOW** from the ARP funding to address the current workforce crisis.

## Positive Impact

- Higher Wages
- Lower Turnover
- Fewer Staff Vacancies
- Improved Stability, Quality & Satisfaction
- Greater System Capacity to Address the Waiting List