



# 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## 1) INCREASE FUNDING BY \$5.9M GR FOR TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT

**When regular increases are not made, the system ends up in crisis.**

- There has been no rate increase for Targeted Case Management (TCM) since 2015.
- Targeted Case Managers are the gatekeepers for \$11.6B in service authorizations for people with DD and monitor the quality of services received.
- Targeted Case Management providers are experiencing a staffing crisis, and many agencies will be paying the same amount for their degreed professionals as provider agencies are paying for direct care staff.

## 2) ENSURE LOCAL PROPERTY TAX LEVIES REMAIN INTACT

**Local county boards use their funds to provide local support.**

- Personal property tax makes up approximately 20% of local tax levy funding, providing about \$25M annually to support people with disabilities.
- The workforce crisis and rising costs are challenging the service delivery system as stressed agencies compete for the same staff to provide critical support.
- **If these dollars are reduced, the fiscal impact on the state WILL be significant, and people's health and safety WILL be in jeopardy!**

## 3) ENSURE THAT PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (I/DD) RECEIVE ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO LIVE AND WORK IN THEIR COMMUNITIES BY APPROPRIATING SUFFICIENT FUNDING THAT ALLOWS I/DD PROVIDERS TO PAY A COMPETITIVE WAGE OF \$21/HOUR TO DIRECT CARE EMPLOYEES

**The DD system must be fully funded at market rates to ensure the health and safety of people with I/DD.**

- Wages paid to employees across Missouri have exceeded wages paid to direct care employees that support people with I/DD. This fact causes direct care applicants to realize they can make higher wages in positions with less responsibilities and therefore, do not end up accepting our job offer.
- Over seven hundred people with I/DD are approved to receive services but are forced to wait because providers cannot expand under the current reimbursement rates appropriated within the state budget (Section 10.410). Families struggle while waiting for services and at times must quit their jobs.
- I/DD providers cannot offset increased costs of recruiting and retaining employees like private businesses by raising prices or fees charged to the customer.

*For additional information, visit [www.macdds.org](http://www.macdds.org).*