

Disability Policy Seminar 2021: AUCD Policy Priorities



Home and Community-Based Services

Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) are necessary to supporting people with disabilities stay in their homes and be members of their communities¹. More federal funding is needed to make sure that all people can get the services they need² and to improve the Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) workforce.

- Invest an additional \$400 billion in HCBS over the next 10 years³.



End Subminimum Wages

People with disabilities have a harder time finding good paying jobs than people without disabilities. Over 100,000 people with disabilities continue to work in sheltered, separated workshops for money below the minimum wage⁴.

- End subminimum wages for people with disabilities by ending Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act⁵.
- Expand access to competitive employment opportunities for workers with disabilities to work alongside people without disabilities, and provide transition services for those now employed under Section 14(c) waivers.



Appropriations

All AUCD network centers and programs are affected by the annual federal budget and appropriations process. More federal funding will allow our programs to better meet the needs of people with disabilities and their families through research and community services.

- University Centers of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities;
- Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities;
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers;
- Projects of National Significance; and
- Transition Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities⁵.

¹ <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/home-community-based-services/index.html>

² <https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/State-Management-of-Home-and-Community-Based-Services-Waiver-Waiting-Lists.pdf>

³ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/>

⁴ <https://www.usccr.gov/files/2020-09-17-Subminimum-Wages-Report.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.aucd.org/template/page.cfm?id=257>