### FACEBOOK STORIES/ INSTAGRAM - LONG



# Speak Up for UCEDDS!



### UCEDDs are in trouble.

The Administration's FY26 proposed federal budget is calling to **eliminate UCEDDs** across the country.

The bill moves the UCEDD funds into block grants.

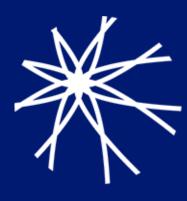


A block grant is a funding method that allows states to allocate funds as they see fit. This is a bad proposal for UCEDDs and other programs that advance disability rights.

### But first, what are UCEDDs?

**UCEDD** stands for University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.





### What do UCEDDs do?

UCEDDs are a nationwide network of independent but interlinked centers that address issues, find solutions, and advance research related to the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

They work with State DD Councils, providers, professionals, and individuals with DD and their families to advance disability rights, services, and supports.



#### Did you know there are

### 68 UCEDDs nationwide?



**→** 

### UCEDDs partner with:

- State Councils on Developmental
   Disabilities, that use UCEDD data to advocate for inclusive state policy.
- Protection & Advocacy Systems (P&As) to use UCEDD research in legal advocacy.
- Projects of National Significance (short-term discretionary investments for creative problemsolving) use UCEDD knowledge to address emerging needs. &
- **Communities** use UCEDD research to inform advocacy related to policies impacting people with I/DD and their families.



### UCEDDs support communities by:

- Teaching future professionals, in classroom and clinical settings, to serve people with I/DD.
- Recruiting and training professionals across a wide range of disciplines, to serve as peer educators on the needs of people with I/DD.
- Sharing critical information to increase accessibility and inclusion.



### UCEDDs support communities by:

- Providing diagnoses, screenings, vaccinations, and therapies through clinics.
- Offering early childhood education programs to promote learning and social engagement.
- Promoting exercise and wellness in recreational settings for youths and adults.
- Sharing information and assist with disaster planning, response, and recovery.
- Providing opportunities for people with I/DD to influence policies and programs intended to support them.



## UCEDDs have been advancing disability rights for over 60 years.

Now, they're at risk.

And we need your voice.



The FY26 budget proposal eliminates UCEDDs as independent programs, folding them into a single budget with four other distinct disability programs.

This change would dismantle decades of research, training, and services that UCEDDs have built across every U.S. state and territory.





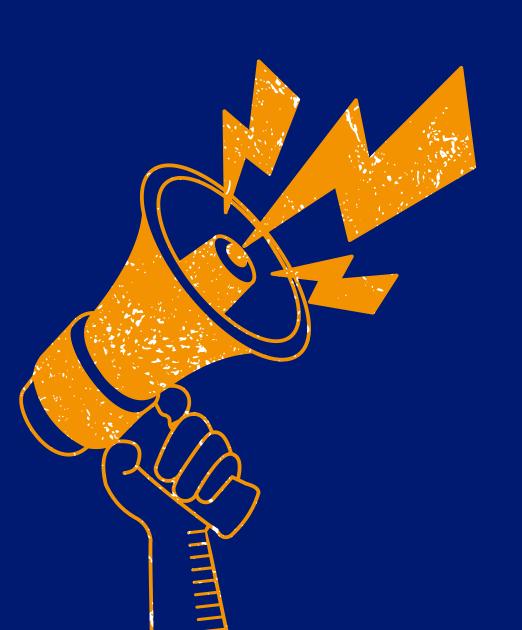
#### This threatens:

- Services for people with disabilities
- Disability research and training
- State and federal partnerships
- Compliance with the DD Act

We must protect the independence and impact of UCEDDs.









### FACEBOOK STORIES/ INSTAGRAM - SHORT



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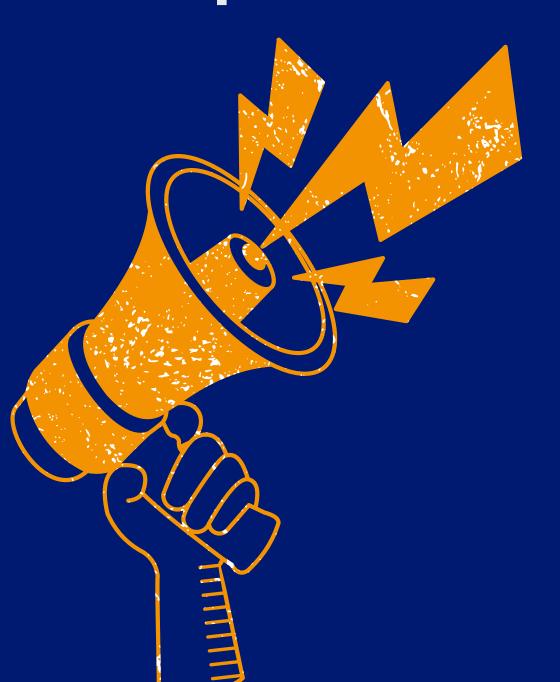
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