



2023 Legislative Priority: Adopt DSHS recommended rates to sustain employment and community inclusion services

Problem: After 12 years of no rate review or adjustment, **Employment and Community Inclusion providers** are unable to sustain vital services with 66.7% acknowledging they are at maximum capacity. A rate increase has been recommended by DSHS, and without it, people with disabilities will lose their jobs and community supports.

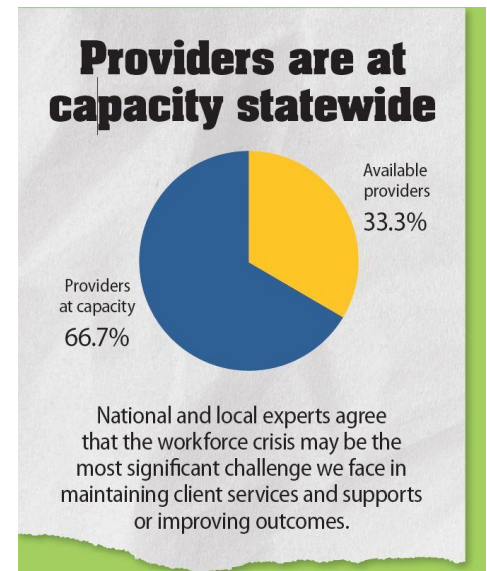
Legislators passed two bills in 2022 ([SB5790](#), [HB1980](#)) to expand service access through statewide School To Work and concurrent services. Without a rate adjustment providers will not be able to implement these goals. The primary challenge is that the rate cap has not been increased in 11 years, and agencies cannot maintain staff and sustain increased cost of doing business.

People with developmental disabilities and their families are seeing the negative impacts of insufficient staffing and are deeply concerned.

Request: Support the DSHS Developmental Disability Administration (DDA) findings in the [legislative-directed cost study](#). The study results indicate the need for:

Provider rates updated to current market as requested in the DSHS decision package

Federal Match: with every dollar Washington state invests in supported employment & community inclusion, there is a 50% federal match.



Jobs Transform Lives!

Washington [ranks #1](#) in the country with employment outcomes for people with developmental disabilities. Let's not lower our standards.

Services for individuals with disabilities produces:

- \$67.6M in client job earnings in 2019
- Increased quality of life for clients
- Reduced reliance on public supports for clients

If I couldn't access my technology or have a great career coach, I could not have found this position. -Alex M