



Alliance for the Betterment of
Citizens with Disabilities

Empowering People: Providers Shaping Policies

For the Third Month in a Row our Bounce Back Continues to Lag Behind NJ Economy

Staffing Shortage Exemplifies the Inherent Link Between Day and Residential

ARP Funds Needed: Contact Your Legislators Now

Despite the fact the NJ's economy is at 92% of its pre-pandemic level¹

Day programs are currently operating at only 61.8% of their pre-pandemic levels,² which has meant that:

- Instead of attending day program, 43.5% of individuals who live in their own home remain at home during the weekday days increasing demands on their families³ and
- Instead of attending day program, 16-20% of individuals remain in their group homes during the weekday days^{4,5} requiring group home providers for the 4th month in a row to provide a service they are not paid for and because of the staffing crisis, doing so at overtime rates.

Contact your state legislators and members of the Senate and Assembly Budget Committees and ask them to **support the use of ARP funding for a 5% Cost of Living Adjustment⁶ in DDD Day and Residential Programs to address the necessity to retain and recruit staff during the workforce crisis and the rising costs of doing business.** Help us get people back into the community.

Find email, phone, and address for legislators at <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislative-roster>

List of members of the Senate and Assembly Budget Committees is on the back of this alert.

¹ CNN Business/ Moody's *Back-To-Normal Index* on April 15, 2022 for New Jersey.

² Based on an analysis of 40 ABCD member day programs representing 14.5% of the day program population for April of 2022.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Based on an analysis of ABCD member group homes representing 19% of the licensed group home population for April of 2022.

⁶ NYS FY'23 Enacted Budget contains a 5.4% COLA for all OPWDD services.

Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Chairperson Paul A. Sarlo | (201)804-8118 |
| Vice Chairperson Sandra B. Cunningham | (201) 451-5100 |
| Senator Nilsa I. Cruz-Perez | (856) 541-1251 |
| Senator Patrick J. Diegnan | (908) 757-1677 |
| Senator Linda R. Greenstein | (609) 395-9911 |
| Senator Gordon M. Johnson | (201) 530-0469 |
| Senator Declan J. O'Scanlon | (732) 444-1838 |
| Senator Steven V. Oroho | (973) 300-0200 |
| Senator Theresa M. Ruiz | (973) 484-1000 |
| Senator Michael L. Testa, Jr | (609) 778-2012 |
| Senator Samuel D. Thompson | (732) 607-7580 |
| Senator Andrew Zwicker | (732) 823-1684 |

Assembly Budget Committee

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Chairperson Eliana Pintor Marin | (973) 589-0713 |
| Vice Chair Benjie Wimberly | (973) 925-7061 |
| Assemblyman Daniel Benson | (609) 631-0198 |
| Assemblywoman Annette Chaparro | (201) 683-7917 |
| Assemblyman Herb Conaway | (856) 461-3997 |
| Assemblywoman Aura Dunn | (908) 955-7228 |
| Assemblyman John McKeon | (973) 377-1606 |
| Assemblyman Raj Mukherji | (201) 626-4000 |
| Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz | (908) 918-0414 |
| Assemblywoman Carol Murphy | (856) 735-5334 |
| Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson | (609) 571-9638 |
| Assemblyman Brian Rumpf | (609) 693-6700 |
| Assemblyman Gary Schaer | (973) 249-3665 |
| Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger | (732) 856-9294 |
| Assemblyman Harold Wirths | (973) 300-0200 |