



Alliance for the Betterment of  
Citizens with Disabilities

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**Empowering People: Providers Shaping Policies**

Demand Outpacing Supply

Infants and Toddlers Wait Listed for Services

ARP Funds Needed: Contact Your Legislators

We are very excited by the turn of events in Early Intervention due to the leadership of the Murphy Administration and the NJ Legislature. Last year's increase of 7.5% is helping providers attract and hire practitioners while keeping clinical oversight in the field. Though our system is righting itself, it will take time to remedy over a decade of under resourcing.

Historically the State's No Provider/Practitioner Available directory (NPA)<sup>1</sup> had no more than 100 infants and toddlers listed as seeking service. Due to the pandemic and the fragility of the EI service system, 415 infants and toddlers were listed on January 14, 2022; 391 infants and toddlers, on February 14; 494 infants and toddlers, on March 9; 518 infants and toddlers, on April 4; and 624 infants and toddlers on April 15 were waiting for over 30 days to begin receiving services that could transform their lives and futures.<sup>2</sup>

Imagine a child on a waiting list for public school.

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 2.5% increase to Early Intervention Provider rates to address the necessity to retain and recruit staff**. EI is a short window of just 3 years, losing this time may create permanent disability. Help us provide life changing services to all eligible infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities.

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

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

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<sup>1</sup> NPA is a statewide waiting list of infants and toddlers who are eligible for EI services but have not been assigned to a practitioner for over 30 days because no practitioner can be found to accommodate the service need/demand.

<sup>2</sup> 624 is 5% of the 13,000 infants and toddlers the EI system serves at present.

## 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