



## PAY FAIR FOR CARE

- **Florida families and providers must be able to recruit and retain dedicated people to work with the direct care needs of persons with developmental disabilities. Higher wages for direct care staff are needed to improve the availability of direct care workers.**

### BACKGROUND

People with lifelong intellectual and developmental disabilities require a range of services to ensure their health, safety and success in community living. Direct Care providers are the lifeline for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their family members. However, the rates paid to providers of these services are no longer adequate. As a result, providers are faced with constant turnover. Families are often unable to find someone to provide the services their loved ones must have to be independent. To help strengthen this service system, as well as maintain current services with a choice of providers, rates must increase.

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### ISSUE

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council and its stakeholders have been advocating for an increase in iBudget personal support compensation. A targeted meaningful increase in personal support provider rates is critical since this remains one of the most essential yet underfunded services.

