

## How to support New Yorkers with disabilities

Advocacy is the best way to support New Yorkers with disabilities. We ask that you join us in calling on our legislators by messaging their offices. A sample email and instructions are below.

### Email Directions:

Please copy and paste the email below.

Suggested Email Subject Line: Invest in the Disability Community Now!

### Draft Email - Feel Free to Customize:

Dear [insert legislator name]:

As a constituent and advocate for people with disabilities, I am writing to urge you to support increased funding for the disability community in New York's budget. People with disabilities, their families, and those who care for them rely on a multitude of state-funded services to survive and thrive. Currently, many of those programs are struggling to keep up with rising costs, staffing shortages, and increasing needs. Without adequate funding, agencies are forced to reduce services and staff, leaving many families without crucial support.

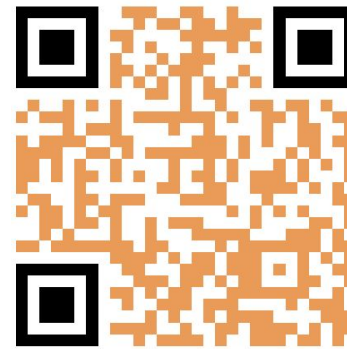
I ask that you support the following priorities in the final budget:

- Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates to match inflation - **2.7% Targeted Inflationary adjustment**
- Restore funding for the OPWDD **Healthcare Enhancement Program**
- Include Affordable housing initiatives - **S.8676 (Fahy), S.8672 (Fahy) & S.8675 (Fahy)**
- Increase New York State Child and Dependent Care Credit - **Accept Revenue Bill Part A**

These investments are critical to keeping services available, supporting the workforce, and ensuring people with disabilities can live safely, comfortably, and with dignity in their communities. Please stand with the I/DD community by supporting these budget amendments and urging your colleagues to do the same.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

[Please sign your name and organization or business here.]



To automatically populate the email and your legislator, please scan the QR code or click [here](#).

## How to support New Yorkers with disabilities

Advocacy is the best way to support New Yorkers with disabilities. We ask that you join us in calling on our legislators by posting on social media and tagging your elected official. Sample posts and a graphic are included below.

### Draft Posts - Feel free to customize, but please tag your legislator.

To look up your Assembly member, please click the link [here](#). To look up your Senate member, please click the link [here](#).

Facebook and Instagram:

People with disabilities deserve strong support. They rely on workers that care for them and a multitude of programs and services in their daily lives. That's why we're calling on lawmakers to support increased funding in New York's budget to support the workforce and protect essential services. @[tag your legislator], please support budget amendments that strengthen investments in disability services. Let's make sure no one is left behind. #InvestInUs #InvestInMe

X (280 characters or less):

People with disabilities deserve strong support. They rely on caring workers and essential services every day. We urge New York lawmakers to increase funding in the state budget to support the workforce and protect services. @[tag your legislator], let's make sure no one is left behind. #InvestInUs #InvestInMe

