

INCREASE FUNDING FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTERS (ILCs)!

NY State's network of ILCs provide direct services to over



100,000
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES,
family members and other
non-disabled individuals
per year.

Since 2001, the work of ILCs to transition and divert people with disabilities from institutional placements has **SAVED THE STATE** more than



\$2.5 BILLION

- ILCs are community-based nonprofits run by, and for, people with disabilities. There are 41 State funded ILCs in communities across New York providing a wide array of supports and services helping people be independent and integrated in their communities.
- ILCs rely on the State for funding to provide these vital core services. **The total allocation for ILCs of \$16 million is not enough to keep up with service demands amid rising costs. A recent analysis by NYAIL indicates a \$224,817 deficit per center based on a model funding for core services and operations at \$614,817.**
- The state network of Independent Living Centers helps to transition approximately 800 individuals a year from costly institutional placements back to the community.
- Data from the State Education Department demonstrates **this work saves New York more than \$9 in institutionalization costs for every state dollar invested in ILCs.**
- Due to ILCs location in the State Education budget they are not eligible for any statutory cost of living increases like other disability & human services providers. Yet ILCs compete in the same labor market as the eligible providers and are having the same difficulty in recruiting and retaining staff. **We ask for your support of A.2590 and S.1580 to include ILCs in the human services COLAs.**
- ILC staff are juggling multiple job responsibilities because of staff shortages caused by a lack of state funding. ILCs would be able to ensure more older and disabled New Yorkers could live integrated lives in the community if funding kept up pace with costs and demand.

New York must increase base funding for Independent Living Centers to \$25 million and add them to the human services programs eligible for Cost-of-Living Adjustments!