



2021 Legislative Budget PRIORITIES

Reinstate Regional Family to Family Networks

Family to Family Networks support 12,250 families experiencing disability, many who have barriers accessing the formal developmental disability service system. Family Networks partner with 1,800 businesses and non-profits to make Oregon communities welcoming to all people. The Networks leverage community relationships to help families find the resources, strategies and peer support they need quickly, as they wait for diagnoses or eligibility and navigate complex service systems.

\$1.3 million/biennium continues this essential support for families.

Establish DSP Wage Standards

Pass House Bill 2964 to finally resolve the DSP wage inequities by setting the wage for Direct Support Professionals at 150% above minimum wage going forward, stabilizing this diverse and marginalized workforce and while reducing turnover that places people with developmental disabilities at higher risk. HB2964 is the long-term solution to a long-term issue.

Fully Fund Case Management Entities

Ensure DD Case Management Entities are fully funded. DD Case Management funding has not kept pace with increased workload over the past three biennia. Currently funded in the low 70% range, a return to 95% of the DD Workload Model for overall operational costs and 100% of the DD Workload Model for Staffing FTE is needed to meet increased demands.

Develop Statewide Data System

Restore investment in a statewide, integrated data system needed to identify trends and inform policy decisions at the state and local level through one accessible system. Replace inefficient and disconnected databases used now. Provide transparency and access for people with I/DD and their families to upload records and track services through a secure online portal.

Oregon is strongest when everyone has access to the support they need when they need it.

DD Services System Essential in Oregon's Emergency Response

Disasters impact everyone in different ways.

As the smoke lifted from the devastating events that we endured in 2020, the responsiveness of the Developmental Disabilities Services System was clear.



COVID Response: **Direct Support Professionals** faced the threat of COVID every shift so people with disabilities would have the supports they need to stay healthy and safe. **Regional Family Networks** immediately began supporting families with at-home activities and reduced isolation by keeping families connected. **Case Management Entities** provided trusted information and resources to help people adapt and take necessary precautions throughout the pandemic. The state needs a **Data System** to ensure that everyone is known and supported through public health crises.



Wildfire Response: **Regional Family Networks** quickly identified the families who needed support and leverage their community connections to meet the immediate needs of families displaced from their homes. **Case Management Entities** continue to help people rebuild their lives devastated by wildfires. **Direct Support Professionals** were on the frontlines during the wildfires, taking swift action to get people with I/DD to safety, even before knowing if their own homes or families were safe. We need an accessible, connected **Data System** to further expedite our emergency response.



Systemic Inequities & Discrimination:

Many people with disabilities and their families face additional barriers to accessing services such as health care, education, and housing because of the color of their skin, the language they speak, their gender identity and/or limited resources.

*People with disabilities continue to endure systemic inequities and discrimination.
A stable system of support provides a foundation on which to address these issues.*