



SUPPORT REQUEST

Developmental Services: Rate Relief and Elimination of Median Rate Caps

On behalf of our members and the individuals with developmental disabilities that they serve, CDSA respectfully requests your support for our 2018-19 FY budget request for a 4% rate increase and the elimination of median rate caps in order to stabilize community services until the State implements the current rate study.

The developmental disability system is approaching a tipping point as inadequate rates have created multiple issues for service providers who face the prospect of closing programs, instituting waitlists, and denying crucial services for Californians with developmental disabilities. The current system offers no reasonable avenues for rate relief to address the rising costs of providing services, including escalating wages and increasing costs for virtually every aspect of running programs, such as insurance, health care, building leases, IT, vehicles, fuel, and equipment.

Reimbursement rates for services have lagged significantly behind inflation costs for the past decade, and the requested relief would simply keep the system from collapsing under the weight of the ever-growing costs of providing services. The state has contracted for a comprehensive assessment of the rate system, but that study is not scheduled to be completed until 2019, and it will likely take additional budget cycles to implement its recommendations. Without any intervention this year, the system stands to lose even more programs that facilitate fulfilling, self-directed lives for Californians that we have committed to serve under the Lanterman Act.

Please sign below and return this form to the CDSA member or email the completed form to CDSA's Director of Government Affairs, Barry Jardini, at bjardini@cal-dsa.org. Thank you for your support.

Print Name and Office

Signature