

# Help Needed sharing Medicaid Stories



From our friends at ANCOR: As we gear up for a markup of the budget resolution next week in the Senate, we have been hearing from Senate Democratic leadership that they are looking for ways to highlight Medicaid in floor speeches next week. Minority Leader Schumer's office said they are looking for first-hand accounts about the importance of Medicaid. We are hoping you all can help us in collecting and sharing those stories. A few notes:

- The floor speeches have already started, so anything we can get to
  Senate offices by tomorrow is very helpful. Please try to send by
  tomorrow at noon, but we'll also take them on a rolling basis if you need
  more time.
- The more specific examples you can provide, the better. Ideally please
  share examples of the impact of your services in your state or communityfor example, how many people you support in home or community-based
  settings or how many employees you have-or personal stories about the
  ability of someone to live independently in their community or obtain
  employment supports, or even stories of the impact of Medicaid services
  on families.
- The goal is to find personal stories/accounts for each state where there are Democratic Senators, so this is especially helpful if you live in

- AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OR, PA, RI, VT, VA, WA, or WI.
- Please email me at <u>eaguilar@ancor.org</u> with your stories as soon as possible. If you live in a state with a Democratic Senator, but need help shaping a story, please also reach out.

If you live in a state with Republican Senators, your outreach is still very important! Now is the time to reach out and share why Medicaid is fundamental to I/DD services. You can use our <u>action tool</u> or you can share your own resources. We are also attaching a one-pager on the importance of Medicaid funding from ANCOR if helpful.

Please feel free to email Elise at with any questions you have at <a href="mailto:eaguilar@ancor.org">eaguilar@ancor.org</a>.

## **BDS Weekly Update**

### **IHS Waiver Renewal Listening Sessions**

The In Home Supports (IHS) Waiver is beginning the renewal process, with an anticipated completion date of 1/1/2026. Prior to drafting any changes to the current waiver, the Bureau of Developmental Services is kicking off a series of individual and family listening sessions to hear feedback, experiences, and thoughts from individuals and families who utilize services on the IHS Waiver.

The Institute on Disability at UNH will facilitate these discussions.

The sessions are being held in three locations to accommodate a broad geographical area, as well as two virtual sessions. Sessions will be held on February 18 4:00pm-6:00pm in Rye, on February 19 11:00am-1:00pm in Gorham, and on March 3 12:00pm-2:00pm in Bedford. Virtual sessions will be held February 11 5:00pm-7:00pm and February 25 4:00pm-6:00pm. Please see the BDS resource page for location addresses and links to the virtual sessions.

## NH Council on Developmental Disabilities – Five-Year State Plan Survey

Every five years the DD Council develops a state plan to establish specific goals and objectives to address needs of people with developmental disabilities.

Filling out this survey will help to identify areas the DD Council can focus on to reduce barriers and create opportunities for people with developmental

# disabilities living in New Hampshire. Provide your feedback on the priority areas for the next five-year state plan here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHCDD5YrPlan

#### **Medicaid Dental Programs Experience Survey**

ABLENH is conducting a short survey to better understand the dental care experiences of people with disabilities in New Hampshire. Your feedback will help identify training needs for dentists, individuals with disabilities, and families —ultimately working toward more accessible dental care across the state.

All responses are anonymous and will be combined to spot trends and advocate for better policies. If you are answering for multiple people, please submit a separate response for each.

Dental Care Survey for People with Disabilities

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