



Legislative Platform 2023

Provider Capacity and Waiting List:

A unified strategy to develop IDD provider capacity as well as eliminate the IDD waiting list. The strategy will stress capacity stabilization first, followed by the building of new capacity to serve individuals on the waiting list.

- Establish ongoing fiscal stability and certainty for the IDD system, thereby addressing critical workforce shortages of essential professional positions through adoption of an annual adjustment process for IDD funding
- Increase Targeted Case Management reimbursement to a level that provides sustainability
- Promote a multi-year strategy to eliminate the State's waiting list of more than 4,000 adults and children as well as advocate for stopping further list growth while that strategy is developed and implemented
- Support establishment of a new Community Support Waiver as outlined by the Special Legislative Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disability Waiver Modernization
- Secure resources to serve complex needs populations such as behavioral health, age-related illnesses and high physical care needs

Workforce Emergency:

Collect local and national data trends, investigate other state successes, research funding options and explore potential partnerships.

- Develop strategic partnerships and utilize data-driven approaches to help providers address shortages
- Explore the use of enabling technologies that can assist in addressing shortages
- Promote development of an education-based pipeline for recruitment of DSPs
- Partner in development of training, certification and apprenticeship in order to professionalize the DSP role
- Advocate for increased funding to bring wages for professional positions to fair market value

Improve KanCare:

Coordinate with State agencies, recommend preferred models and prepare for future changes in KanCare.

- Explore preferred managed care models for long term services and supports
- Explore opportunities to improve oversight and accountability of KanCare contractors
- Provide recommendations to the administration and legislature on improvements to KanCare

Case Management:

Protect and maintain the elements of TCM that are of value to persons served.

- Maintain local control and personal choice of case management
- Work in partnership with the State to address CMS conflict of interest concerns
- Promote practical and financially sustainable community-based models of case management

Critical Needs for IDD System Stability:

- Protect and enhance the spectrum of employment supports for Kansans with IDD
- Restoration and enhancement of state aid and SGF funds to address the needs of persons with IDD who do not receive services through the HCBS IDD waiver
- Promote needed changes to the HCBS IDD waiver
- Support comprehensive transportation options
- Support the network of KS Early Childhood Developmental Services providers who support children with IDD

Reduce Regulatory Barriers:

Work with the administration and legislators to reduce or eliminate unnecessary overregulation.

- Push for regulatory changes that better reflect the strengths and values of the existing provider network
- Advocate for the removal of the State Fire Marshal from the KDADS licensure process
- Continue to urge that State Fire Marshal inspections respect the choice and rights of persons served
- Retain pandemic-related relaxation of policies, such as those related to background checks
- Continue to promote pragmatic and collaborative approaches to provider licensure
- Identify and reduce overregulation as well as encourage the State to apply licensure and oversight consistently
- Eliminate duplicative processes that place unnecessary additional burdens and costs on the community system