

*empower*



Association of Rehabilitation Facilities



# DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY PROVIDER RATE CRISIS



caring + influencing + changing



individuals + families + providers

*educate*



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Educating and empowering  
individuals, families and providers  
to propose solutions and inform  
key legislative decisions.

Sponsored by the United States Department of Health and Human  
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the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

# THE CRISIS

Direct Care providers are the lifeline for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their family members. However, the rates paid to providers of these services remain well below FY 2003 levels. As a result, families are often unable to obtain the services their loved ones need. In addition to inadequate service rates, providers also struggle to stay in business with rising expenses and costly federal mandates. The combination of concerns about the quality of care, less provider availability and fewer service options poses a distinct threat to the health and safety of individuals with disabilities.



## THE FACTS

- ▶ Provider compensation rates are 11% lower than FY 2003 levels.
- ▶ The number of available providers has decreased 35% since FY 2007 – 2008
- ▶ 3,517 providers have left the program since 2007
- ▶ The annual turnover rate for direct care staff is 40%
- ▶ Federal wage requirements are increasing
- ▶ Florida is ranked 50 out of 51\* based on low fiscal efforts for developmental disability services

\* Rankings include 50 states and District of Columbia

## WHO IS AFFECTED

### THE INDIVIDUALS

- ▶ Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are being negatively impacted
- ▶ A variety of services are needed for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in order to maintain an adequate life.
- ▶ Many individuals are unable to obtain the support services they need
- ▶ Without provider services the health, safety and well-being of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities is at risk

### THE FAMILIES

- ▶ Many families are unable to find the support services their loved ones need.
- ▶ Many families rely on support services to maintain a job, provide for their families and complete daily tasks.

- ▶ If providers are not available, many family members will have to make very difficult decisions about who will take care of their loved one.

### THE PROVIDERS

- ▶ Providers are limiting their services, having trouble hiring staff or even shutting down
- ▶ Many independent providers are forced to seek other employment opportunities.
- ▶ Current provider rates do not allow employees to earn an adequate living wage.
- ▶ Providers Face:
  - High turnover rates
  - The need to comply with new federal labor laws

## WHAT CAN BE DONE

- ▶ The developmental disabilities community seeks to raise awareness of the Provider Rate Crisis.
- ▶ Encourage the Legislature to take action.
- ▶ Provider rates must increase.
  - Increasing provider rates will help fund adequate wages.
  - If funding for community care decreases, individuals and families will request costly residential placements