

Protect Home and Community-Based Services in Pennsylvania

What's Happening

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) help Pennsylvanians with intellectual and developmental disabilities **live at home, stay safe, and participate in their communities**.

Under the 2025 federal budget reconciliation law, reductions to Medicaid funding could cause severe cuts to essential programs (e.g., waiver-, in-home services), which are currently classified as optional services.

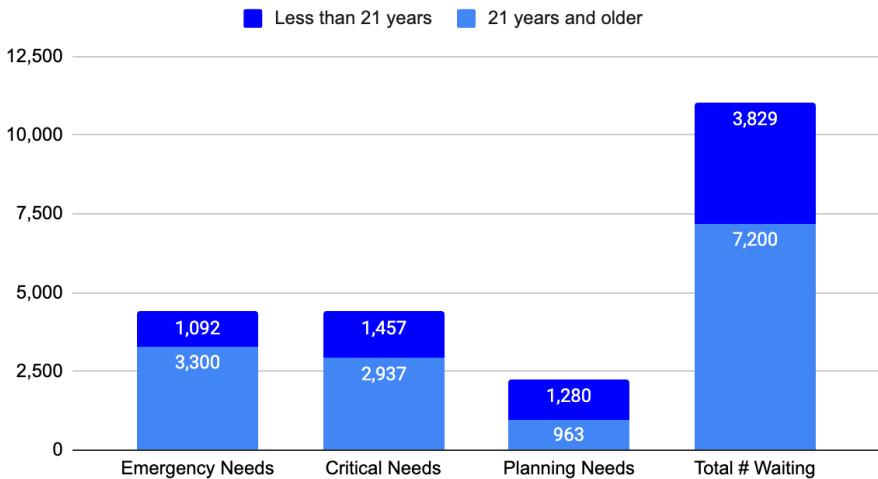
(Source: KFF Medicaid Waiver Tracker, 2025; Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, 2025)

Quick Facts

More than 11,000 Pennsylvanians with intellectual and developmental disabilities **remain on waiting lists** for crucial home and community-based services.

These waiting lists include **individuals in emergency, critical, and planning needs categories**.

Intellectual Disability and Autism Service Waiting List



<https://pawaitinglistcampaign.org/>



What's at Risk

- Loss of independence:** People with disabilities may lose the ability to remain in their homes if home-based care is reduced or eliminated.
- Family crisis:** Parents and caregivers may lose respite and essential support services.
- Worsening staffing shortages:** Cuts to Medicaid provider rates reduce pay for Direct Support Professionals, worsening the care crisis.
- Civil rights setback:** Weakening HCBS funding undermines the Olmstead v. L.C. decision, which guarantees the right to live in the least restrictive setting.

How Pennsylvanians Can Act

- Contact your legislators** to request full funding for Medicaid, HCBS, and elimination of the waiting list.
- Share your story** with SJAC and The Arc of Pennsylvania about how waiting lists and Medicaid cuts impact your family.
- Support direct care workers and local advocacy groups** and consider volunteering with agencies that provide home and community-based services.
- Every voice matters.**
 - Protecting HCBS means protecting the right of Pennsylvanians with disabilities to live with dignity and independence.



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