



# Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services

## 2022 Legislative Priorities

For over 40 years, MACDDS has partnered with the state to promote local county initiatives in developmental disabilities services. Comprised of 61 county boards and 19 related providers, our members lead local initiatives that have a statewide impact, improving the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.



The **mission** of MACDDS is to champion inclusive communities through the leadership and collaboration of our member organizations.

The **vision** is for all people to lead full, meaningful lives as valued members of their communities.

### Did you know?

- County boards are the largest non-DMH funder of disability supports statewide.
- County board services help people live and work as they choose in their communities.
- Each county board is unique. All boards are funders. Some boards provide direct services and some provide case management.
- Funded services may include:
  - Employment Supports
  - Residential Supports
  - Personal Assistance
  - Transportation
  - Independent Living Supports
  - Adaptive Equipment
  - Day Programs
  - Case Management
  - Therapies

**Local Initiatives. Statewide Impact.**

# Legislative Priorities

## 1 Appropriate Funding for Rate Standardization

**Families are without critical services for their loved ones with developmental disabilities because providers can't hire staff.**

- It is vital that we ensure rate standardization is funded through General Revenue to address the direct support hiring and retention crisis.
- Agency reimbursement rates are inadequate and must be increased to meet the requirements of the CMS Corrective Action Plan.
- All rates, both residential and non-residential, must be increased so that direct support professionals can be paid a competitive, living wage.
- **The workforce crisis has created a new waiting list**, one that gives people with I/DD and their families false hope because there is no staff to support them, even though services have been authorized and funding has been allocated.

**CARE = INFRASTRUCTURE**



## 2 Ensure Local Property Tax Levies Remain Intact

**Local county boards use their funds to provide local support.**

- Personal property tax makes up approximately 20% of local tax levy funding, providing over \$20.5M in support for people with disabilities annually.
- Service delivery is already challenged due to increasing costs as agencies compete for staff to provide critical supports due to the workforce crisis.
- **If these dollars are reduced, not only would people's health and safety be in jeopardy, the fiscal impact on the state would be significant!**

**REDUCING PROPERTY TAXES = DEFUNDING PUBLIC SERVICES**