

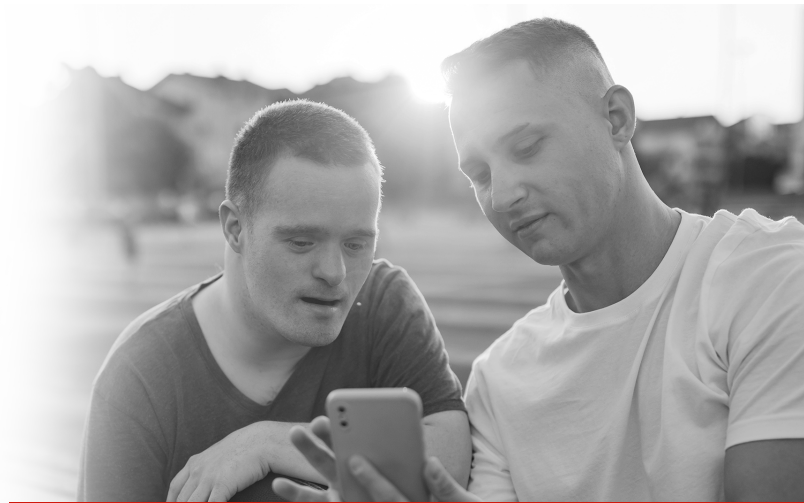
# What is IDD?



**Intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD)** are lifelong conditions that uniquely affect the trajectory of the individual's physical, intellectual and/or emotional development, requiring services, and support across their lifespan. Autism spectrum disorders (ASD), Down syndrome, and cerebral palsy are common examples of these conditions. About one-third of individuals with IDD also have a mental health condition. People with IDD also have significant cognitive and adaptive behavior limitations, including language and verbal skills, reasoning, learning, literacy, and social skills.

**Medicaid-funded long-term care services and supports pick up where the public education system ends.** Since IDD is lifelong, long-term care services are designed to help people acquire, retain and improve the knowledge and skills they need to live as independently as possible in the community. This model of services, called habilitation, is different from personal attendant services (which focus on doing tasks for persons with physical disabilities such as bathing, eating, and dressing) and requires face-to-face interaction to train individuals how to do tasks for themselves.

**IDD services** provide tailored support for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities, including but not limited to residential options, day programs, therapy, family support, and assistive technology. These services aim to promote independence and enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities, empowering them to thrive within their communities.



## In addition to habilitation services, Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) provide the following services to Texans with IDD:

- Nursing Care
- Tube Feeding
- Transfer / Ambulation / Positioning
- Skin Care
- Hygiene
- Stoma Care
- Trach / Ventilator / Insulin Pump Care
- Vitals
- Seizure Management
- Incontinence Management
- Manage Incidents
- Manage Maladaptive Behaviors
- Home Management
- Emergency Drills and Alarm Systems
- Assessments of Daily Living
- Documentation

### IDD services in Texas Today:

- 485,000 children and adults in Texas are diagnosed with IDD.
- Texas only has the capacity to serve 97,000 individuals with IDD.
- \$10.60 hourly wage for community-based DSPs
- \$17.50 hourly wage for DSPs working at State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs)

### How do we ensure adequate care for individuals with IDD?

The State of Texas must approve emergency funding for DSPs who care for Texans with IDD. Community-based DSPs deserve competitive wages, and our state leaders need to act now to address the current labor shortages and ensure care for some of the most vulnerable members of our Texas communities.