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**I/DD**  
**LEGISLATIVE**  
**CAUCUS**  
**LISTENING**  
**SESSION**

**WEDNESDAY**

March 26, 2025



**TIME**

12 PM - 2 PM



**NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

3rd Floor - Auditorium

Legislative Building

16 W. Jones Street, Raleigh, NC







# LANDSCAPE GOING INTO 2025

- Transition in state and federal leadership
  - Some leadership continuing
- Hurricane Helene
- Building on previous I/DD work
  - Townhalls/Listening Sessions
  - DSP Plan from DHHS/Dept. Commerce
  - DMHDDSUS Strategic Plan
  - DSP Rate Study/Increase
  - Building of relationships
  - HB 1003

## House Bill 1003



- Bipartisan bill introduced in short session of 2024
  - Omnibus bill on I/DD issues
  - Funding and Plan for Innovations Waivers
  - Increased DSP rates
  - Ban Use of Restraints and Seclusion
  - Five Year Housing Plan
  - CAET Funding
  - Develop Accessible Transportation office
  - What's missing? You would want different?



# Public Policy PRIORITIES

**NCCDD**  
North Carolina Council on  
Developmental Disabilities

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities' public policy efforts are to promote public policy information that educates and informs the people we serve and key decision-makers. We support policies that encourage the integration between people with developmental disabilities, those who support them, and the community.

## 2025 Public Policy Priorities



### **Eliminate the Waiting List**

for I/DD Medicaid Waivers within 8 years to meet the needs of everyone on the 18,469 person waiting list.



### **Increase DSP Rates**

in order to ensure a sufficient direct care workforce.



### **Expand Housing and Transportation Options**

for people with I/DD in North Carolina that are integrated, affordable, and accessible.



### **Increase Competitive Integrated Employment**

(CIE) opportunities for all individuals with I/DD.



### **Ensure Success of New I/DD**

Services that are home and community based by continually improving implementation of the Tailored Plans, care management, 1915i, and expanded Medicaid.

Join our Public Policy Education Meetings on the second Thursday of every month! [Register here](#)

## Message from the Executive Director



Talley Wells, NCCDD Executive Director

Now is our time to advocate and educate. Our Congress, President and state legislators will all be considering changes to Medicaid. Medicaid is the lifeblood of developmental disability services. It is essential!

Medicaid is what funds individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) to work in their local communities. It pays for essential services and supports at home for people with I/DD, such as assistance with eating, cooking, using the bathroom, getting out of bed, and other activities when such assistance is needed. It provides respite for family members and individuals with I/DD when that is needed.

But that's not all! Medicaid pays for healthcare for hundreds of thousands of people in North Carolina. This is money that makes sure we have our hospitals, enables people who work in those hospitals to have jobs, and pays for medical care for our fellow citizens, including children, when they have cancer, a heart attack, or other medical needs.

Of course, Medicaid, like any big healthcare system, can be improved. It can be made more efficient. And, it can have more cost savings. But Medicaid is as essential to our healthcare system for people with I/DD as breathing is for all of us to live.

So, now is the time to make sure our legislators, Congress, and President understand how important Medicaid is to us. This is not a partisan issue. In fact, all of our leaders worked hard on expanding Medicaid here in North Carolina just last year. This is simply an issue of how our community can continue to live and thrive!

To reach out to your legislative leaders, you can go to this [website](#) to find your representatives. Reach out to them and share your story. Let your leaders know whether and how Medicaid is important to you.

Talley Wells, NCCDD Executive Director





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