

! a message from **OUR CEO**

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EPIC CEO

ACTION ALERT: TELL LEGISLATORS: FIX THE "NEW" CILA RATE CALCULATOR AND FUND IT!

A large portion of EP!C's operating costs are government funded by reimbursement for services provided which is determined by a rate calculator. The current implemented formulas related to the rates paid for services to people with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities from agencies like EP!C are under real threat!

In 2019, the State was forced to invest in a third party (Guidehouse) to analyze Illinois's rate calculators and recommend new formulas for IDHS to use when calculating payments for services provided by agencies. (Overall rate formulas have not been updated for approximately 30 years!)

Unbeknownst to provider agencies like EP!C and IDHS staff, the new formula funds fewer DSP hours beginning January 1, 2023. For EP!C, this meant **a decline of 45,468 DSP hours and \$525,000 less in funding per year**. As a result, EP!C and other agencies across the State communicated that IDHS's new calculations resulted in an unacceptable reduction of DSP hours. Due to the proposed elimination of DSP hours and the uproar over this proposal, IDHS has agreed to freeze the 2022 rate formulas until June of this year while they review the latest formulas.

But what happens after June? We need to demand that the rates are fixed and funded! We remain in a caregiver crisis and to lose almost 50,000 hours of supports directly affects the lives of those served and the staff who would provide them.

TAKE ACTION: Urge your legislators to support people with disabilities and their families by fixing the rate formula and funding the increase! **It takes a minute to send emails or phone calls to Leaders.** You can find a full list of legislators on our website. Take direct action today and encourage your family and friends to do the same!



Thank you on behalf of EP!C Individuals and Staff.

IT'S PAUSED, NOW FIX IT!

The proposed elimination of more than **3,700,000** DSP hours from the Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILAs) residential system through the implementation of the **NEW** CILA Rate Calculator would be devastating to our loved ones!

Our family members and friends deserve the support that they need to live and work in their communities of choice. All of the people on the Priority of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) waiting list and languishing in State Operated Development Centers (SODCs) deserve the opportunity to live their lives in their communities, not in their parents' basements or in large institutional settings.

If the funding for a **FIX** is not included in the FY24 budget, the hours may permanently disappear and those receiving services, those waiting for services and those providing services will end up falling off a service cliff.

It's vitally important to **FIX THIS ISSUE:**

- Create a Plan to **FIX** the CILA Rate Calculator
- Include parents, guardians, individuals receiving supports, advocates and providers in creating an approved and realistic Plan
- Provide full rate sheet data for every IDD CILA resident in a timely manner to providers
- Provide sufficient funding in the FY24 budget to support the **FIX** and implement the Plan on-going

**THE CILA RATE CALCULATOR IS PAUSED BUT NOT FIXED,
PLEASE FIX THIS NOW!**

