

Did you know...?

You can help.

- Promote awareness of the crisis.
- Share this with your friends and colleagues.
- Visit <http://swannys.org> for info on how to help.

Remind the Governor of his promise.

"In difficult economic times, we must protect key social programs including funding for housing, healthcare, children's programs and combating hunger. There are fiscally prudent ways to balance a growing budget deficit without gutting the programs for the neediest and most vulnerable New Yorkers. We must ensure that critical programs receive adequate funding to protect vulnerable children and families." – Governor Andrew Cuomo

"People with disabilities have the right to receive services and supports in settings that do not segregate them from the community; it is a matter of civil rights." – Governor Andrew Cuomo

Source: October 2013 Report and Recommendations of the Olmstead Cabinet



The State-Wide Family Advocacy Network of New York State is an independent coalition of like-minded organizations from around New York State, comprised of the families, guardians, and friends of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Our mission is to educate and inform policy makers, the media and the public on issues impacting our disabled children and loved ones. SWAN is an independent, all-volunteer organization that receives no government or service provider money; its activities are entirely self-supported.

Did you know?

The service delivery system for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is built on a system funded by NYS (OPWDD, DOH, Medicaid).

It is built upon a fragile foundation of DSPs - Direct Support Professionals who are the backbone of the system.



The repeated erosion of funding for long term care is threatening to take the entire system down...

Placing our loved ones at risk.



Did you know...?

Most of the 138,000 people with IDD in NYS served by OPWDD live with the parent caregiver.

Caregiving Falls on the Shoulders of Aging Parents	
Reality of Caregivers	
48%	caregiving involves help with "almost all basic activities"
86%	caregivers are parents (54% are single parents)
62%	caregivers are themselves experiencing health issues
46%	caregivers are over the age of 60
Note: As family caregivers age, the quality of care of individuals with I/DD may become difficult to manage. Source: the Report, p. 11.	

Source: Final Report to the Governor Keep the Promise 81417

More than 1000 people in NYS with developmental disabilities known by OPWDD are in immediate need for housing!

Nonprofit agencies provide 87% of services delivered to people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Source: February 2016 OPWDD Report to NYS Legislature

The state serves the remaining 13%.

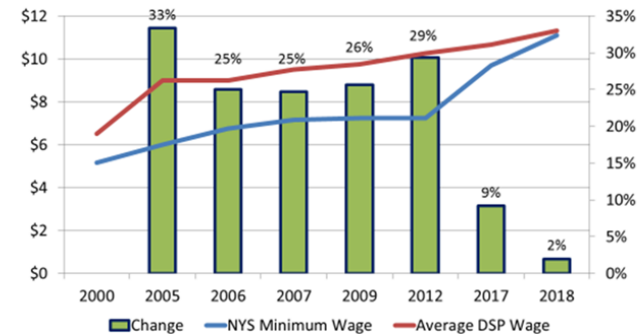
Yet, nonprofits receive only 50% of the total dollars intended for services.

Did you know...?

The people caring for individuals with IDD are referred to as Direct Support Professionals ~DSP.

The average salary of a DSP is \$12.74/hour
Starting wage at Macys = \$13.43
Starting wage at Walmart =\$14.00
Starting wage at Whole Foods =\$14.97 Source: Indeed.com!

Difference Between NYS Minimum Wage and Average DSP Wage



DSP responsibilities include: daily hygiene, grooming, feeding, supervision, medication administration, lifting, bathing, transporting, teaching, helping, protecting, guiding. A DSP is a friend, protector, mentor, companion, caregiver, coach.

A DSP is not a minimum wage job, why does the state view them as such??