

ANCOR Foundation, UCP Partner to Publish the Case for Inclusion 2021



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This morning, the ANCOR Foundation and United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) published [*The Case for Inclusion 2021: A Special Report on the Sustainability of Community Disability Services in America.*](#)

Designed to be a critical resource for advocates seeking to ensure community disability services are sustainable despite current and future challenges, this new report aims to:

- Highlight the ways in which providers of community-based IDD services have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Take stock of the actions state and federal governments have taken to help ensure the continuity of IDD services during the pandemic.
- Offer a blueprint for concrete policy actions that should be taken by state Medicaid programs, the Biden administration and the 117th Congress to ensure providers can stay afloat through and beyond the pandemic, ultimately to ensure people with IDD have options and resources for living in the community well into the future.



The policy recommendations offered in the Case for Inclusion 2021 Special Report generally fall into one of three issue areas: policies that **address providers' immediate needs triggered by the pandemic**, policies that **supercharge the direct support workforce**, and policies that **foster innovations that enable better outcomes**.

At the state level, this means making permanent the many game-changing regulatory flexibilities that were initiated in response to the pandemic. Among others, the report's authors argue that continued retainer payments during temporary service disruptions, the flexibility to use telehealth

services, and the flexibility to deliver supports remotely are all essential to strengthening community disability supports.

At the federal level, there are a range of ways Congress and the Biden administration can invest in the long-term sustainability of community IDD supports. From supporting pilots to test alternative payment models to incentivizing states to assess and address the direct support workforce crisis, many of the policies recommended in the *Case for Inclusion 2021* Special Report are meaningful (i.e., high-impact), manageable (i.e., low-cost) and moveable (i.e., they enjoy bipartisan support), making now the right time to pursue them.

[Download the full *Case for Inclusion 2021* Special Report and access its accompanying resources at CaseForInclusion.org.](#)

