



*Meeting Life's Challenges*

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September 13, 2021

Dear Families & Friends:

Tomorrow we will take part in a Rally to advocate to save our services and increase funding for higher wages for those who provide direct care to our vulnerable population. **Families who are unable to attend, have asked what they could do help. Here's how to make your voices heard!**

**Ask Congress to Support AND FULLY FUND the FULL \$400 Billion for HCBS in Budget Reconciliation**

**The New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation released the following message:** Congress is currently negotiating the Build Back Better Jobs Act, the budget resolution legislation that will include an investment of billions of dollars in the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) program. The House version will include just \$190 billion for the HCBS program, missing the mark on the President's promise in his American Jobs Plan to fund the HCBS program at \$400 billion and falling far short of what community-based disability service providers need to bounce back from the pandemic and address the ongoing direct support workforce crisis. That makes now the critical time to insist that your members of Congress fully invest in the Medicaid HCBS program.

**The time to act is now:** The House has drafted its budget reconciliation bill, the Build Back Better Jobs Act. **The House Energy and Commerce Committee, which is the committee of jurisdiction, will begin marking up the Build Back Better Jobs Act today! (Monday, September 13).**

Please reach out to your representatives today, the template messages can be personalized/modified to meet your individual messaging:

Click [here](#) to send a message to your Senator to support the full \$400 billion in funding for HCBS.

Click [here](#) to send a message to Congressman Tonko, who sits on the House Education and Commerce Committee and urge him to support the Better Care Better Jobs Act (H.R. 4131/S.2210) and ensure that \$400 billion for Home and Community Based Services remains in the package.

Thank you for advocacy and helping us to help others!

Elizabeth Martin  
Chief Executive Officer