



Legislative Platform 2021

Invisible Kansans Advocacy Campaign:

A unified strategy to promote the need to develop IDD provider capacity as well as eliminate the IDD waiting list.

The strategy will stress capacity stabilization first, followed by the building of new capacity to serve individuals on the waiting list.

- Illustrate negative impacts to provider capacity including damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Stabilize the Kansas IDD provider network and build provider capacity for the future via regular increases of provider rates through introduction of legislation or other legislative means
- Develop a multi-year strategy to eliminate the State's waiting list of more than 4,000 adults and children
- Further develop the highly-specialized supports needed to serve complex needs populations

DSP Workforce:

Collect local and national data trends, investigate other state successes, research funding options and explore potential partnerships.

- Review national and local data regarding the DSP workforce crisis
- Illustrate causes of DSP workforce shortages, including COVID-19 impacts
- Explore the use of enabling technologies that can assist in addressing DSP shortages
- Partner with state agencies, community stakeholders and MCOs in developing resources to increase the DSP workforce pool
- Explore development of an education-based pipeline for recruitment of DSPs
- Partner in development of training and certification to professionalize the DSP role

Improve KanCare:

Coordinate with State agencies, define and recommend preferred models.

- Prepare for future changes in KanCare
 - Explore opportunities to improve oversight and accountability of KanCare contractors
 - Provide recommendations to the administration on improvements to KanCare
- Collect and provide data on specialized services gaps

Case Management:

Protect and maintain the elements of TCM that are of value to persons served.

- Maintain local control of case management
- Work in partnership with the State to address CMS conflict of interest concerns
- Explore new models of case management and make recommendations to the administration for practical and financially sustainable alternatives

Critical Needs for IDD System Stability:

- Promote approaches to the HCBS Final Settings Rule that protect and enhance services for Kansans with IDD
- Protect and enhance the spectrum of employment supports for Kansans with IDD
- Restoration and enhancement of state aid and SGF funds to address the needs of persons with IDD who do not receive services through the HCBS waiver
- Enhance CDDO Administration funds
- Enhance funding for the tiny-k network of providers who support children with IDD ages birth to three

Reduce Regulatory Barriers:

Work with the administration and legislators to reduce or eliminate unnecessary overregulation.

- HCBS Final Settings Rule-related regulatory changes
- State Fire Marshal
- Background check policy
- Licensure
- Overregulation of policy and procedures
- Duplicative processes that place unnecessary additional burdens and costs on providers