What is IDD?

More than 500,000 Texans have Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

Below are some examples of types of IDD:

- Autism spectrum disorder
- Down syndrome
- Cognitive disabilities
- Cerebral palsy

While over 500,000 Texans have IDD, less than 62,000 Texans with IDD receive Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports.

Why is Medicaid Important?

Medicaid is a vital resource that can help people with IDD live at home or in the community.

Services provided by Medicaid programs include:

- Behavioral support
- Housing assistance
- Personal attendants
- Speech, physical & occupational therapy
- Supported employment

When Are Texans Being Served?

- Almost 140,000 Texans are waiting for comprehensive Medicaid waiver services
- Over 105,000 have been on waiver interest lists for over 5 years
- Most will wait over 10 years for comprehensive waiver services

Where Does Texas Rank?

Texas consistently ranks 50th in the nation for promoting independence for people with IDD.

Texas has the fourth worst rate of Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports use in the country.

Funding for IDD services in Texas is almost 50% less than the national average.

Barriers to Services

Texans with IDD face significant barriers in accessing Medicaid services and supports, including:

- Reimbursement rate cuts
- High demand for - and low supply of - community-based waivers
- Historical growth in the number of aging Texans with IDD
- Consolidation of Medicaid services

How Does Medicaid Help?

Access to Medicaid services and supports saves Texas money by lowering the likelihood that people with IDD will experience:

- Negative health outcomes
- Behavioral and psychiatric crises
- Unnecessary and expensive institutionalization