

# Medicaid and IDD in Texas

#### 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 - communitybased waviers
- 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