



Creating Opportunities for Happy Lives



Dear Parents, Caregivers, and EEDA Employees,

EEDA's funding is a direct result of the New York state executive budget. The items that are included in this budget directly impact the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and the staff who support them, which is why we need you to contact your legislative representatives today and ask them to support the human services 5.4% cost of living adjustment (COLA).

The COLA is the most important item in the budget and has the greatest ability to improve the lives of people with I/DD. If you want to learn about the other items in the executive budget that will affect the people we support, you can [click here to view the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation's Executive Budget and Legislative Priorities](#). Please ask your legislators to stand up for people with I/DD by including the human services 5.4% COLA in the executive budget.

As negotiations between the governor and the legislature continue, it is critical that we voice our support. ***Please take a moment to call or email the governor, your senator, and your assembly member today.***

[Click here](#) to email Governor Kathy Hochul, or call her at 518-474-8390, and let her know how important the human services COLA is to you!

[Click here to locate your assembly member](#) and [click here to locate your senator](#), and ask them to support the human services COLA in the executive budget!

Our legislators support the diverse population that is New York state, and right now everyone wants their attention. The only way for people with I/DD to remain at the top of their list is for *you* to call today. Every phone call, every email, makes a difference—please contact your representatives and make sure the issues we care about stay in the 2022-23 executive budget!

Sincerely,

Lisa Meyer Fertal
Chief Executive Officer of EEDA

Want to learn more about how the executive budget and advocacy works in New York state? [Click here for a comprehensive guide](#) created by the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation. You can also find these documents on [EEDA's Advocacy page](#).