

# WHAT ARE INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTERS (ILCs) ?

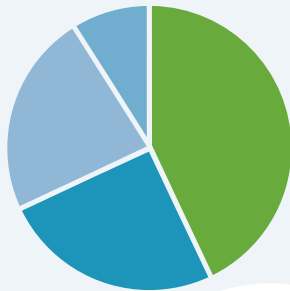
## Why are ILCs essential?

ILCs serve individuals of all ages and with all types of disabilities. In 2017, the State's network of Independent Living Centers provided direct services to



**110,000**  
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES,  
family members and other non-disabled individuals.

ILCs serve any and all people with disabilities.



**44%** PHYSICAL DISABILITY  
**26%** MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITY  
**22%** COGNITIVE DISABILITY  
**8%** SENSORY DISABILITY

Approximately **25%** of the individuals with disabilities served by ILCs report **more than one type of disability**.

ILCs are community-based nonprofits run by, and for, people with disabilities. We provide vital advocacy, services, and supports to individuals so that they can live fully independent, integrated lives in their community.

## ILCs SAVE the state money by helping people live in the community!

ILCs are incredibly cost effective, saving millions of New York State taxpayer dollars each year as a result of reducing and preventing institutionalization.

Since 2001, New York's ILCs have

**PREVENTED**  
**36,356**  
individuals from being institutionalized

The work of ILCs to transition and divert people with disabilities from institutional placements has **SAVED THE STATE** more than

**\$2.5 BILLION**  
Since 2001.

ASSISTED

**6,205**  
individuals transition from a segregated institutional setting back to the community

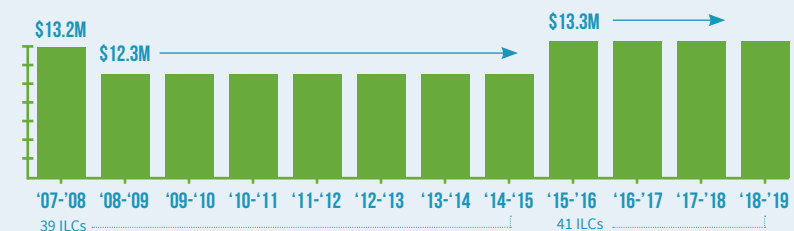


## HOW THIS TRANSLATES?

For every State dollar invested in ILCs, ILC transition activities save the State more than \$9 in institutionalization costs.

## ILC FUNDING HAS BEEN STAGNANT FOR THE LAST DECADE.

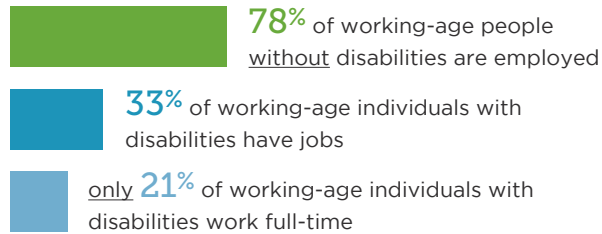
ILC funding is not keeping pace with costs, much less inflation. ILCs have had to lay off staff — many of whom have disabilities — and cut services. An additional \$5 million in crucial funding would allow centers to keep providing vital services and address unmet needs — and continue to save the state money.



It's been **27** years since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, yet people with disabilities are still falling behind in major core indicators compared to their non-disabled peers. ILCs help to address this disparity on the individual, local, and state level.

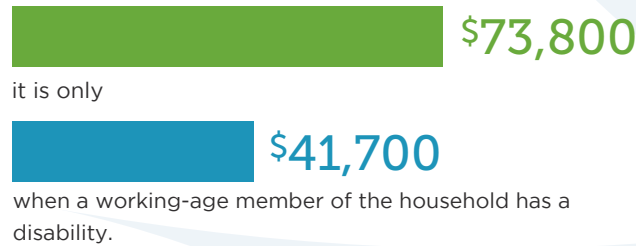
## EMPLOYMENT

New Yorkers with disabilities still face major disparities in employment compared to their non-disabled peers.



## INCOME

For New York State households that do not include working-age people with disabilities, median household income is



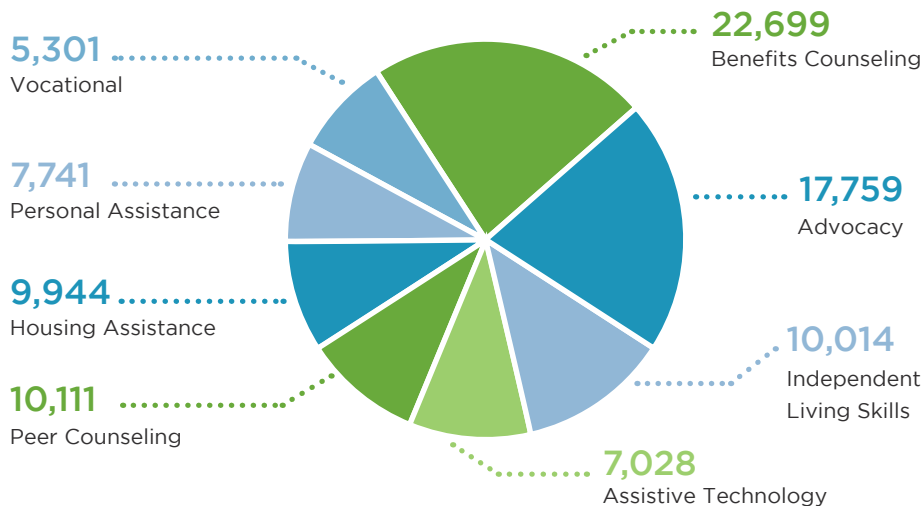
## POVERTY

About **12%** of working-age New Yorkers without disabilities live in poverty, whereas **30%** of working-age New Yorkers with disabilities fall below the poverty line.



ILC services address these disparities and assist individuals to live fully independent and empowered lives.

Most frequently delivered direct services:



## ILCs Create Community Change!

ILCs address disparities by advocating locally and with the State to remove systemic barriers, making communities more inclusive and accessible for all.

- ILCs advocate for affordable and accessible housing!**  
 Advocacy from the ILC network has led the creation of invaluable programs that help people with disabilities live independently in their community, including the Access to Home home modification program and the Olmstead Housing Subsidy program.
- ILCs advocate for accessible transportation!**  
 All Amtrak stations north of Albany are now accessible, thanks to a campaign by ILC advocates. In New York City, ILCs played a key role in the landmark decision to make 50% of all yellow taxis accessible by 2020.
- ILCs advocate to increase integrated employment options!**  
 Most recently, ILCs successfully advocated for the State's Employment First Initiative, which makes integrated employment with appropriate supports and services a priority.



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All ILC data from NYS Education Department, ACCES-VR; all disability status data from Cornell University.