



Congressional Recess is Over..Now What?!

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Home and Community-Based Services



- American Rescue Plan Act Funding- one year, states currently working on spending plans.
- Better Care Better Jobs Act
- Currently included in Budget Reconciliation
- Need to get the number UP

Access to Services AND Workforce



The Funding would:

- Facilitate statewide planning to develop HCBS infrastructure improvement plans;
- Enhance Medicaid funding for HCBS by providing states a permanent increase in federal Medicaid match if they expand access to HCBS and strengthen the HCBS workforce
- Incentivize workforce growth through innovative models that benefit direct care workers and care recipients as well as help workers organize;
- Support quality and accountability by funding programs through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and conducting oversight and offering technical assistance
- Permanently authorize protection against impoverishment for individuals whose spouses received Medicaid HCBS, as well as the Money Follows the Person program to support individuals transitioning from institutions to home or community-based settings.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)



- The SSI Restoration Act (S.2065 / H.R.3824)
- SSI in the Build Back Better package
- Why not SSDI or other Social Security benefits?
- Will this impact HCBS advocacy?

Paid Leave

- Important questions remain
 - Which family members will be included?
 - Will the same amount of caregiving and medical leave be available?
 - Can people take the amount they need when they need it?
- Your advocacy matters!

Advocacy Tools & Resources

#1 Ask!!!! STORIES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Share Your Story: Why Home and Community-Based Care Matters

It's time to tell Congress that #CareCantWait!

We have an opportunity right now to make a HUGE investment in home and community-based services (HCBS) funded through Medicaid by passing the Better Care Better Jobs Act.

Help make this happen by sharing with your members of Congress what home and community-based services mean to YOU and YOUR FAMILY or why you need these services NOW!

Background: People with disabilities rely on home and community-

[GET STARTED](#)

The Arc logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the screenshot.


<https://p2a.co/zc2H8lN>

thearc.org/action

#2 Ask: Calls, Emails, Tweets



Action Center



Take Action

Join The Arc as we build a larger, stronger movement of people with disabilities, parents, siblings, and allies to advocate for the full inclusion and civil rights of all people. Take action now!

Sign Up for Email Updates

First Name

Last Name

Zip


SUBMIT

Find Your Elected Officials

Zip Code


GO FIND LEGISLATORS

TELL CONGRESS: SUPPORT PROPOSED INVESTMENT IN DISABILITY SERVICES!



TAKE ACTION!

SHARE YOUR STORY: WHAT SUPPORTS DO YOU NEED TO LIVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



SHARE YOUR STORY!

Calls, Emails, Tweets

Stories

TheArc.org/Action

Resources:

[TheArc.org/covid19recovery](https://www.thearc.org/covid19recovery)



- Key issues outlined
- Plain language HCBS, Paid leave + SSI fact sheets (*Spanish language* coming soon!)
- Link to Action Alerts
- State-specific fact sheets

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of The Arc website with the logo on the left and links for Chapter Portal, Find a Chapter, Join, DONATE, and SEARCH on the right. Below the navigation bar are menu items: POLICY & ADVOCACY, OUR INITIATIVES, GET INVOLVED, GET RESOURCES, and ABOUT US. The main content area features a large image of two women, one standing and one sitting in a wheelchair. To the right of the image is the article title "A Historic Investment in Disability Services" with a yellow underline. Below the title is a paragraph of text and two links: "Why The Wait? Word Doc | PDF" and "Workforce 101 Word Doc | PDF". At the bottom of the article is another paragraph. Below the article is a banner with the text "Paid Leave for All" and a photo of two smiling men.

A Historic Investment in Disability Services

For years, the service system that people with intellectual and development disabilities (IDD) and their families rely on, Medicaid, has needed an update. People are stuck on waiting lists for home and community-based services, the direct care workforce is underpaid, and too often, unpaid family caregivers are filling in the gaps in service.

[Why The Wait?](#) [Word Doc](#) | [PDF](#)

[Workforce 101](#) [Word Doc](#) | [PDF](#)

If passed, the 2021 Better Care Better Jobs Act will make a big impact on disability services. Learn more about how this investment would impact care in your state!

Paid Leave for All

Resources:

Drop Box Toolkit (<https://bit.ly/3l8ygsG>)

- Social media posts and graphics (refreshing!)
- Letters to the editor
- Links to resources and alerts

Videos

- HCBS 101 video
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zs5iNLQUbiQ>)
- Personal story videos:
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCvmsgD_xas
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5AkkHS3CoNo>
- HCBS personal story video coming soon!

Social Media

- #WeActWednesday
- #CareCantWait



Recess Congressional Reporting Reminder:

<https://thearcus.surveymonkey.com/r/AugRec21Report>



No reports



Lots of reports!





**THANK YOU for all
of your
advocacy!!!**