

Hi, my name is Glenna Hayes and I live in the city of Portland. I have been in the caregiving/support professional field for 11 years now, in many different roles and different settings. Over the last 11 years I have watched people with disabilities be left without adequate supports to meet their needs and to have a the quality of life every human deserves. Due to lack of funding support providers and case managers are not paid enough, which equal high turn over rates for people who need these services. Imagine every couple months having to go through the process of introducing someone to the most intimate parts of yourself only for them to leave shortly after, having to repeat the process all over again. People with disabilities have a history of being oppressed and ignored by the state, left to scramble to meet the bare minimum of their needs. People with disabilities deserve to have their supports and service working at the highest quality and care, but that is not currently how things are working. Many people with disabilities cannot find proper supports, and many are houseless due to the limited income and lack of affordable/accessible housing. If we could get these funds allocated to our services we can work with lesser case loads and more direct support, provide some stability with their supports and work more diligently to prevent people falling through the cracks.