

Support HB 3080 For ALL Texans with IDD

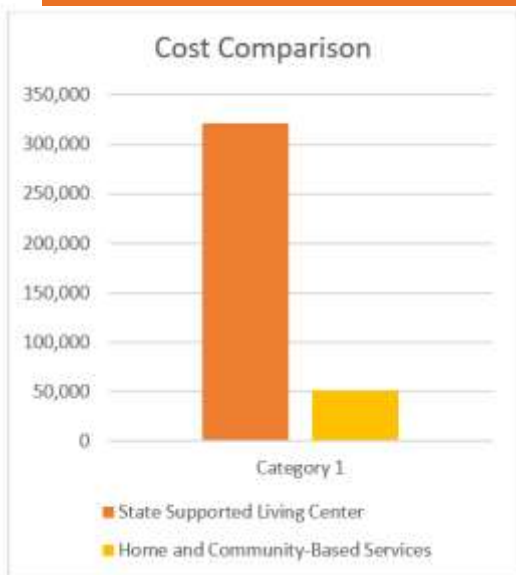
The Arc of Texas' Position

With access to the proper supports, all Texans with intellectual and developmental disabilities can live and thrive in the community.

With a consolidated SSLC system, individuals residing in SSLCs can have a safer, better quality of life.

But not everyone can live in the community, right?

Sure they can! There are 16x as many people with the highest level of need supported with community-based waivers than there are living in a SSLC.



150,000+

Texans are waiting for supports to live in their community. Funding the waitlist is the only cost-effective alternative to institutional services.

Realities About State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs) in Texas

- **Texans with disabilities, as a majority, don't want to choose an SSLC over their community,** exhibited by a 74.6% enrollment decrease between 1977 to 2015.
- There are less than 3,000 Texans still living in the 13 SSLC's across the state.
 - While that number continues to decline, funding for SSLC's increases about 25% each biennium.
 - HCS average cost has stayed consistent for over 15 years.
- SSLC's are not always the safest place. In 2016, Office of the Independent Ombudsman for SSLCs reviewed 1,693 "unusual incidents," defined by the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) as an "event or situation that seriously threatens the health, safety, or life of individuals."

Institutional bias:

- There is no wait to live in an SSLC, but there is up to a 14-year wait for community services.
- Only 0.2% of Texans with IDD live in an SSLC, yet more than 40% of the money used to fund services for people with IDD goes to fund the SSLC system.