



# FLORIDA SELF-ADVOCATES NETWORK'D (FL SAND)

Representing 14 local grassroots self-advocacy groups  
around the state

## 2017 Legislative Priorities

### Transportation for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

FL SAND urges the Florida Legislature to provide resources for employment-related transportation for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

- ❖ Lack of transportation is a primary, documented barrier to competitive employment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. FL SAND supports the Employment First policy in which integrated employment is the first priority and preferred outcome for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- ❖ More funding for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program, expanded transportation access through the iBudget Waiver, and representation by individuals with disabilities on transportation-related boards are essential to obtaining and retaining employment.

### Increase Provider rates for The Individual Budgeting/ Home and Community Based Services Waiver

FL SAND urges the Florida Legislature to increase provider rates so that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families who receive the Individual Budgeting/Home and Community Based Services Waiver have stable and qualified service provider staffing for delivering waiver services.

- ❖ Provider rates are so low that providers are offering fewer services or going out of business. As a result, families are often unable to obtain the services their loved ones need.
- ❖ Providers need greater compensation. A 3% increase in provider rates for this fiscal year was a good start that must be increased for next year.