

# Understanding the Human and Fiscal Impact of COVID-19 on Disability Supports

Congressional Briefing  
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- Rationale
- Key Findings



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# Rationale for Survey



- **Produce a statistically sound analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on IDD (ID/A) service providers**
  
- **Demonstrating the Need**
  - Informing Congress about the need for funding from the CARES Act, (which allocated \$100 billion for the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund and subsequent \$75 billion additional allocation to PHSSEF)
  - Anticipating ongoing needs we hope to be addressed in a 4<sup>th</sup> Relief Package
  
- **Data-informed and supported advocacy**
  - Define and validate the narrative



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# Survey Development



## ➤ **Determined data elements**

- Closure of lines of service
- Atypical DSP-related expenses
- Provider cash on hand

## ➤ **Developed survey questions and data sources**

- Conducted face validity and vetted each question

## ➤ **Created survey tool and communication pieces**



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# Survey Process



## ■ Distribution of survey

- Determined target participants (ANCOR members and other providers in state associations)
- Distributed survey to target participants
- Implemented communication strategy to maximize response rate

## ■ Data integrity

- Preliminary data reviewed by research consultant
- Determined what data had integrity and mitigated any data issues
- Sent final data set to independent firm for analysis



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# Survey Analysis



## ■ **Avalere**

- Avalere completed draft analysis
- ANCOR team reviewed the draft analysis for clarity and follow-up questions
- Analysis finalized for distribution



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# Survey Responses



**Table 1. Survey Participants Summary**

Category	Valid Responses Received	Average Number of DSPs <sup>2</sup>
All Organizations	689 (100%)	362
Small Organizations*	67%	77
Large Organizations*	33%	916

Source: Avalere analysis of COVID-19 Impact Member Survey, ANCOR, April 2020

- 689 Valid responses
- 240,000 DSPs represented



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# Program Closures



Table 2. Organizations Required to Close I/DD Service Line by Government Order

Survey Question	All Organizations	Small Organizations	Large Organizations
Closure of Any I/DD Service Line	468 (68%)	290 (63%)	178 (78%)
% of Annual Revenue	32%	40%	31%

Source: Avalere analysis of COVID-19 Impact Member Survey, ANCOR, April 2020

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- 54% reported day service closures
- 31% reported supported employment service closures
  - 19% reported transportation service closures



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# Additional Costs



**Table 3. Additional Staff-Related Costs Among Organizations Serving Individuals with I/DD Due to COVID-19 Pandemic**

Expense Category	Staff Overtime	Onboarding	Training
N	689 (100%)	679 (98%)	684 (99%)
Yes	52%	21%	27%

- \$77,000 – Additional Over Time Expense / month
- \$16,000 – Additional Staff Training Expense / month
- \$28,000 – Additional Employee Onboarding Expenses / month



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# Ability to Sustain Operations



Table 4. Financial Viability of Organizations Serving Individuals with I/DD

Category	Cash-on-Hand as % of Annual Revenue	Months of Sustained Operations Threshold	Number of Organizations Not Able to Operate Beyond Threshold
N	598 (87%)	598 (87%)	598 (87%)
All Organizations	10%	1.2	55%



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**Chris Sparks**  
**Executive Director**  
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**Christopher Mitchell**

**Direct Support**

**Professional**

**FREE**

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**Jolene Bowers**

**Host Home Provider**

**Mosaic**

**Colorado**



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# What is our ask...

- **\$20 Billion to stabilize the direct support workforce during the COVID-19 crisis**
- **Funding to be used for:**
  - Overtime pay for DSPs and other frontline workers
  - Enhanced pay for DSPs and other frontline workers
  - Staff stabilization funding to pay for DSP recruitment and retention measures
  - Procurement of PPE



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# So what can you do?

- Watch your email for our latest Action Alert and take action!
- Reach out to your Senators and Congresspeople about why this is important.
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