

Q6 For the areas you chose above, please comment on why you chose that area and/or the barriers or successes you have experienced in that area. Please use specific examples.

Answered: 72 Skipped: 36

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Daughter is 35 years old and we are now in our 70s. Transition to community-based services is rumored to be difficult because of lack of availability.	9/14/2025 3:23 PM
2	My son needs to get out to be with other people. Trans from home to the facility works for us. When the time comes I hope there's housing for him and is in a safe place	9/14/2025 1:30 AM
3	- Housing: developing a housing area where individuals can live independently (or with another) but also be surrounded by a community of support would foster an environment for individuals with disabilities to thrive. It would offer independence, but with safety and security. In looking for a long term "home"; a true "home" for our loved one has not been successful. While there are excellent places that may suit others. For example, a group a home would be too confining and restrictive. An independent affordable apt we've found do not feel safe or stable. Additionally, the waiting list for housing assistance or group homes is years once an application is submitted. When learning that SD is not a state that recognizes or supports expedited housing in crises circumstances, we are frightened and concerned for the wellbeing of our loved one and others in similar situations. - Transportation- next to housing is the next greatest hurdle. Without affordable, reliable transportation our loved one is removed from a job he loves and finds meaningful. He is also prevented from participating in the social and physical activities (sports) he loves and that provide him enrichment and community. - quality - services must be safe and reliable - laws - we must advocate for laws that protect and support our loved one	9/12/2025 8:09 PM
4	We are in desperate need of housing for our 25 y/o daughter with Prader-Willi. Earlier this year we were told she could live at Life Scape in Sioux Falls & later on we were turned away because of my daughter needs food's locked & others didn't need any food's locked. And it was their "right" to have food when they want it.	9/11/2025 4:55 PM
5	Early intervention catches things before they get harder to correct.... Transitions are always critical to the success of the individual. Social activities and educational opportunities are important. Support in decision making is needed... everything can be overwhelming for a caregiver... and you really do want the best options to choose from for your loved one.	9/11/2025 3:36 PM
6	lack of public transportation, lack of funding for individualized transportation, difficult or limited hours of public transit. Lack of child care options for those with extra needs.	9/11/2025 2:29 PM
7	As a CSP, I often see struggles with transportation support being available to individuals with IDD. This causes a large barrier to recreation/leisure activity participation, employment participation, and ability to access other areas of the community. Technology is growing but the ability to access technology is not. People supported are generally living with limited income. Few resources are available to help Adults with technology access. There are many non verbal adults who could benefit from technology. Other barriers to technology is that staff/CSPs are not trained on the use of new technology, therefore this hinders a person supported from being able to use/access new technology.	9/9/2025 12:03 PM
8	I see an ever growing need for residential options for IDD population in SD in addition to assisted living in that transition group. Transportation should be accessible and a billable service in SD.	9/5/2025 4:02 PM
9	With changes in federal government policies, I think it's important those of us invested in disability services stay informed about policies and how to advocate for necessary services. Childcare for those with disabilities is hard to find. Transportation for those with disabilities needs improvement and training support on available options. Families need a lot of help with transition planning. It is a common practice to start this too late. Assistive tech can help	9/4/2025 12:54 PM

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people with disabilities in so many ways and we need to focus energy on how to maximize that and fund these items.

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| 10 | My family member is in housing through Lifescape. the home they live in has 6 other people with disabilities and are all senior citizens. The home is in bad need of repair. There is a great need for better housing solutions for the aging poplulation. Nursing homes are a step too far. They are functioning adults living in substandard housing. | 9/2/2025 4:01 PM |
| 11 | That's what we need most. Also consistent 25/7 care. | 9/2/2025 1:22 PM |
| 12 | adults with disabilities need more to do with their time, especially while at day services centers and how to implement community outings when at their homes also. | 9/2/2025 11:13 AM |
| 13 | Difficulty finding consistent competent care givers within agencies. Some laws or policies are counterproductive. | 8/30/2025 10:49 AM |
| 14 | Want to make sure that when our daughter needs a place to live, she is able to have great staff in a smaller environment with access to community activities. | 8/29/2025 4:58 PM |
| 15 | I chose the categories above, because we live in a small town that doesn't have any services for our adult son who has autism. We had to place him in a group home in Sioux Falls. What we have experienced since doing so is a lack in staffing and longevity of employment within the group home. The lack of staffing makes it difficult for our son to go to swimming lessons in the community when they don't have to staff to do so. It is the one thing he truly enjoys and is on his ISP. | 8/29/2025 12:46 PM |
| 16 | Need communication between staff and guardians always. Think getting residents out and about in the community is a great idea. Would be nice to have staff that can speak English. | 8/29/2025 12:19 PM |
| 17 | Transportation: lack of affordable transportation both within and outside of city limits, but especially outside of Sioux Fall city limits. Supported Decision Making/Guardianship: lack of guardianship options for people who don't have a family member or close friend to become guardian Employment: lack of opportunities for people to have community employment due to lack of buy in from employers and lack of funding from DDD. If we want people to have jobs, but they need staff support to do so, we need funding to provide that level of staffing. Also need community to buy in to creating jobs for people with disabilities. Assistive Technology/Technology: need more education and funding on how to use technology to better support individuals. Also need DDD to relax on their thought process of restrictions. What might have been seen as restrictive in the past, can actually be very supportive and lead to more independent living (i.e. use of cameras). Quality of Services: It is hard to provide quality services without funding to provide the level of staffing that is needed to provide quality services | 8/29/2025 10:58 AM |
| 18 | SD is a rural state and people in rural areas do not have the same access to services as those in more urban areas. Might be a good idea to host town hall meetings to discuss needs in rural communities. | 8/29/2025 9:05 AM |
| 19 | New to this position and I think those are the ones so far that I would like to learn more about. | 8/29/2025 9:01 AM |
| 20 | Living in a very rural area access to resources is extremely limited and any services there are available are not always accessible or visible to those needing the services. | 8/26/2025 11:32 AM |
| 21 | The Watertown school district has not been a great place for students with special needs to attend. I have had to fight to get Aiden the assistance he needs. It is time that the school district is more in sync with helping those that have special needs such as Autism, ADHD, anxiety and other disabilities. Also, the restriction that health insurance still has for children with these types of disabilities. Constantly having to file disputes when they deny a claim. | 8/20/2025 11:21 PM |
| 22 | Not reliable transportation- gets her to work late regularly- we would be fired- | 8/15/2025 3:04 PM |
| 23 | Lack of good providers, quality of living environments for persons with disabilities | 8/15/2025 8:51 AM |
| 24 | These things are needed for not just survival but essential for any type of growth | 8/14/2025 7:08 AM |
| 25 | N/A | 8/14/2025 4:56 AM |
| 26 | Policy and Laws: most don't know about these. Availability for community services: these are often not advertised so those that need them, don't know about them. Transitioning from Youth: most parents are unaware that this is something that happens as part of their IEP or 504 Plans. I didn't, until it was explained to me. The process can be a little intimidating. | 8/13/2025 12:25 PM |

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Socializing within the community: services should be available to those with disabilities to learn how to do this effectively. Housing: I think often about my child with disabilities and what he will need when he is an adult and how he will live, even where he will live.

27	Because the current admin is trying to take away all our services	8/13/2025 11:51 AM
28	People with I/DD have historically struggled with inclusion and person centered access to services. Especially in the current age of reduced funding, increased costs, scarcity of resources, and trends toward institutionalization, I feel that the above listed areas most effectively address my concerns.	8/13/2025 11:45 AM
29	Most important areas of concern in my adult sons life	8/12/2025 4:35 PM
30	These areas allow individuals to live more independently and have a larger impact on their lives and communities.	8/12/2025 11:42 AM
31	Public transportation in SF is lacking--many of the routes/timetables make it take an individual 2+ hours to get to a job or other location. Housing for individuals that fall "in-between"--not quite ready to live fully alone/independently, but not in need of a supervised group home setting. Access to Community-Based services--again with the transportation piece for individuals who don't have a strong support system Employment: Helping employers to understand how they can develop jobs that maybe don't currently exist, for individuals with I/DD. Mental Health--support for care giver burnout as well as unique ways to educate individuals with I/DD	8/11/2025 11:31 AM
32	Affordable housing for everyone.	8/10/2025 7:10 PM
33	I feel that everyone who has a different ability or does not have every business should be accessible to individuals in wheelchairs or who cannot even walk. The laws for differently abled people are messed up. What I mean by messed up is that the Government once again targets the differently abled people, and that is not okay. All of these topics are so important to me as an individual with a different ability.	8/8/2025 9:19 PM
34	Courses on hunting	8/8/2025 10:59 AM
35	There is so much stigma on mental health issues. I believe that is changing, but there needs to be more awareness, particularly for those with I/DD. Guardianship overreaches are seen continually. Those with I/DD need more education on what encompasses guardianship and their rights within it, which also includes Disability laws and policies affecting them, which in turn empowers them to self-advocate. Those with disabilities need to know what services are available to them even from a younger age (middle school and up as understanding allows), and how to access them without feeling ashamed.	7/8/2025 10:53 AM
36	Advocating for themselves, and making decisions to steer their own life seems to have been pushed back and we are allowing others to make life decisions, not the individuals.	7/7/2025 3:11 PM
37	I selected these since I believe they are what will make the most positive impact upon people with disabilities. Leadership is something that should be done with passion, fostering people to success and considering both the people we support along with the staff that are there for them. We should help to educate our people with the goal of guardianship if that is something they wish to pursue. This could be liberating for a person and should be something achievable through help and education. If our goal is to help people to live meaningful lives then our quality of services needs to be an area in which we excel. There is always room for improvement. A good balance is necessary for a meaningful life and that includes having friends, hobbies, and fun recreational activities to partake in. The other side of this coin is employment. Gaining employment and achieving these goals is a big life accomplishment. Being involved in the community like this allows for a feeling of pride and accomplishment.	7/7/2025 12:47 PM
38	I feel this are the foundation to assure the best quality of life possible for the people we support.	7/7/2025 12:42 PM
39	At the top of my list is Health. We must do a better job of providing nutritious/healthy food for our individuals that live in our group homes	7/7/2025 11:47 AM
40	Mental Health - support/services/accessibility are limited in this area. There is a long wait, the expenses typically are only partially covered by insurance, and once you are seen the level of monitoring medications and their effects simply aren't there. Mental Health should be on the same level as physical health. To get my child or myself to have a psych eval it costs over \$1,000 with insurance each. Childcare - there is simply no childcare that I am aware of for I/DD	7/7/2025 10:18 AM

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kids or resources for parents. I did so one class put on by the school for IEPs unfortunately with two small children and the meeting being at bedtime I was unable to attend. Education - My daughter was to go to Rapid City 2x a week for PT, it was a mere miracle that in talking to the Director at Daycare that we found out about the Birth to 3 program. There was no way of affording to take time off work, gas, driving, appointment cost, etc. for me to do otherwise.

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| 41 | Considering the current political climate and proposed changes to Medicaid funding, I am concerned that with an already tight budget at CSPs, quality of services and access to federal dollars may decrease resulting in unmet needs. | 7/7/2025 10:15 AM |
| 42 | All of those areas are lacking and need to be examined and fixed. Especially the way healthcare professionals at Monument treat adults with IDD. | 7/7/2025 9:58 AM |
| 43 | The administration lacks leadership in the area of decision making process for individuals supported. They make the decisions without any team input. | 7/7/2025 9:28 AM |
| 44 | Assistive Technology has been a huge asset to what I do and would like this to continue and for even more exposure and support from all levels. Transportation in rural areas or limited access hinders our ability to be even more effective and limits independence of individuals. Disability laws. Are very good, we just need great awareness and education. Quality of service. Services are done the best of everyone's ability. Leadership. This has been difficult to obtain as there is favoritism and lack of oversight in keeping current leaders accountable for their actions or lack of. When seeking promotions or raises there is little to no opportunity for growth locally. | 7/7/2025 8:53 AM |
| 45 | Disability law and policies- Laws and policies guide our actions Mental Health- Greater awareness of mental health issues is needed Quality of Services-Would like to learn more about what services are available as well as the quality of services offered Education/Early Intervention- Making information available to parents early enough to ensure early intervention is given when needed Availability and Access to Community-Based Services- Living in a state with a great deal of rural areas/population, this is a concern for many. | 7/2/2025 6:38 PM |
| 46 | We need more reliable and affordable transportation options | 7/1/2025 12:15 PM |
| 47 | It is easy to cut services from those he need it most | 6/26/2025 7:48 PM |
| 48 | The areas I chose are all areas that I see families and professionals struggle with from day to day. There is a need for more education on what is available to people and how to go about getting it. I also see many people who need help with their loved ones struggle with affording that help. They often make just a little too much to attain the services needed to help pay for things. | 6/26/2025 1:16 PM |
| 49 | Concerned with current presidential administration that those with disabilities will be left behind. Quality services over quantity. | 6/24/2025 8:12 PM |
| 50 | Areas I see could use improvement. | 6/24/2025 6:14 AM |
| 51 | I work in employment focus and these often impact clients I work with most. Guardianship I think is an ongoing education process and always more need. | 6/23/2025 2:25 PM |
| 52 | Employment is a large part of my position within the state of SD. While we've seen some improvement, I feel there are individuals who have abilities that are wanting community employment but often feel that volunteering is their only option. Mental Health: The wait for services is too long; many times individuals are told it could be 3-6 months before they can be seen by a psychiatrist for an initial evaluation, and then it takes time to get in to discuss medications and other needs. Transportation: VIA/SAM on Demand has made some improvements, but there are many individuals being served by our agency that are still having a difficult time getting to work due to the boundary lines, wait times, etc. which severely limits their ability to find employment. Housing assistance is very hard to receive, especially when an individual has an I/DD disorder in addition to felonies. Transitioning youth from school to post-secondary education or work is also a large portion of my role, so continued supports in this area are always welcome. | 6/23/2025 1:09 PM |
| 53 | It's difficult to find other in the same stage of life and help my son with ASD make meaningful relationships. He is lonely and longs for connection. It also has been very difficult for him to find employment. He is willing to work, but many businesses won't even give him a chance. We are working with Voc Rehab but they are running into the same issues. | 6/20/2025 10:01 AM |
| 54 | South Dakota needs more open slots on Family Support. Many are moving into the area to not | 6/19/2025 2:43 PM |

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have the necessary support in a timely manner.

55	We need laws to guarantee rights, AT to communicate to find sources of support, transportation to get to services and support to be able to determine the most appropriate guardian/non guardianship programs to make sure that rights are maintained will maintaining safety for the individual.	6/17/2025 2:18 PM
56	Access to companions and affordable housing as well as social opportunities for adults with autism are regular phone calls that I receive.	6/17/2025 12:46 PM
57	Would love to have more opportunities to be out in the community- would like to see partnering with the city and local businesses/ organizations to make accessible/welcoming times for those with disabilities especially as individuals get older. There isn't a lot of information about guardianship, housing out there.	6/17/2025 10:25 AM
58	I feel like they are the most important services and are often under served to the community	6/17/2025 10:05 AM
59	Staffing shortages. Lack of quality medical carecare for oncooperative disabled people.	6/17/2025 7:32 AM
60	Early education- my children were not provided adequate educational support. I have one child who has a diploma he didn't earn. One child who should have been able to graduate who isn't even able to pass a GED test. Had he received early intervention and adequate support his entire life would be different. The tole this has taken on his mental health is beyond devastating.	6/16/2025 11:32 PM
61	I have employed through black Hills works I currently work at Ellsworth Air Force base and I enjoy my job but my home life is very difficult as I have been subjected to many problems with my neighbors and I tried to move out but I have been having trouble finding a new place. and it's made my PTSD worse.	6/16/2025 10:56 PM
62	These are the areas that affect my family the most.	6/16/2025 6:07 PM
63	Hearing from family members of the difficulty of accessing/applying for services; hearing from family members and individuals with disabilities lack of activities	6/16/2025 1:29 PM
64	They all tie together....we need a "one stop" healthcare center for autistic individuals. From diagnosis to treatment options/services. Right now things are very fragmented and parents are struggling to find the necessary help for their loved ones with ASD. It would be wonderful to included alternative medicine/therapies. Having access to a local Functional Medicine Physician is an example of something that is lacking in SD. Also, It would phenomenal if the social services staff of the major hospital systems were informed and educated on services available to ALL individuals with special needs....SO much misinformation is shared by them it is sad.	6/16/2025 9:55 AM
65	Community services and qualified service providers go together. Especially in smaller communities. Agencies are not available to serve all the folks that need services. Recreational activities are limited due to lack of qualified folks to coordinate and supervise the activities.	6/15/2025 2:51 PM
66	--I don't feel like the State listens to case managers/families/Participants enough when making law, they put too high a priority on CSP's wants. --There aren't enough CSP providers to serve all the people who need services and most CSPs don't want to work with anyone who has challenging behaviors so those people/their families get left without services with disastrous results (long-term admittance to nursing homes, mental health hospitals or jails--none of which know how to handle their diagnoses appropriately--and/or they end up stuck going to SDDC or HSC--or their families are stuck caring for them in situations that may be dangerous for the Participant and/or the family member as well as the Community at Large. --There also aren't enough Transportation options for people--especially anyone living outside a larger city...	6/12/2025 4:01 PM
67	Education about services offered and quality of services provided to/for people with disabilities is lacking. From CSPs to healthcare, the facilities are financially driven. CSPs, while providing necessary services are able to lobby the state and make thing better for them but rarely is it better for the people they service. Services are sometimes hard to provide and CSPs seem to want to take the easy way more and more.	6/11/2025 9:20 AM
68	Quality of service, not enough resources	6/10/2025 7:04 PM
69	I feel that proposed funding cuts and policy changes will negatively affect my loved ones with developmental disabilities.	6/10/2025 3:48 PM

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| 70 | DEI is becoming a taboo subject. It is becoming harder to advocate for inclusion | 6/10/2025 2:22 PM |
| 71 | SPED education and quality of services has declined significantly in our area and I know it's difficult to retain employees around the disability world. Everyone needs more support and better leadership. | 6/10/2025 2:06 PM |
| 72 | My 4 year olds are both autistic and have been on the waitlist for FamilySupport360 since last November, with no idea when we they'll be taken off. It is prohibiting our ability to get therapy for them (ABA) that may help with behaviors that put them and others in danger. This therapy is \$9,000 out of pocket for us, AFTED insurance. It is not feasible financially and we do not qualify for any other services or programs. Being waitlisted indefinitely makes it impossible for us to line up therapy, as assessments and treatment plan development takes weeks to months and is designed to start immediately. | 6/10/2025 1:31 PM |

Q7: Is there a service available in your community that you or your family member(s) need, but it is not accessible due to cost, eligibility, or other reason?

1. Specialty doctors in Western SD are hard to get appointments for. Trainings offered by the DDD generally have 2-3 dates in Eastern SD and one in Rapid City. It would be nice to have DDD/state trainings in the northern hills too.
2. Not enough resources in the schools
3. In home nursing cares.
4. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy have declined in the school setting and insurance is difficult to utilize and after school hours is less valuable. I wish there was better support in context of school.
5. See above - ABA therapy would make my children's lives safer and enable us to spend more time in the community. However, it is \$9,000 out of pocket after insurance. We do not qualify for any other programs that could help pay for it besides FS360.
6. Respite Care. Cannot find a provider.
7. Housing with a supportive community and adequate supportive resources Independent living skills coaching, ongoing/throughout life Reliable transportation
8. Housing and a day program. Turned down for both.
9. Many social/sports activities are not easily available to Adults (besides special Olympics). Again -- transportation is often a barrier when it comes to getting to/from, especially if there is limitations with staff availability to assist.
10. Transportation options are available in the Sioux Falls area but more training is needed for individuals seeking to use these services (like using SAM On Demand). Access to assistive tech is expanding but I think we need more training and exposure to what is available to help people.
11. Crisis Services for people with intensive behavior support needs...both short and long term.
12. No service within an hours drive.
13. Watertown does have a place that is called Spectrum Matters that helps kids on the spectrum. However, due to limited space and specialists working there, they have a small number of kids they can assist. Watertown is growing and we need more places like

Spectrum Matters. Also, once the kiddos graduate from Spectrum Matters, they need something else to help them with every day social and living skills. There is really nothing here in Watertown to provide services like this.

14. Day programming not to her level of need
15. Work with individuals w disabilities and providers to keep living environment up in terms of the neighbors and others - not view it as a "group home" work with individuals with dis, earlier in the school system to develop work, social skills. More community involvement
16. Unless I am able to reach my 7k family deductibles we don't have access to services since we are not low income
17. Adequate and affordable mental health and medical services
18. Affordable housing in small rural SD Communities
19. First and foremost, I would say transportation is difficult. Living in a small community that does not have a taxi service any longer and LYFT drivers not always being available it takes a lot of planning and coordination to schedule transportation through the town buses. However, those buses have business hours and are not as available as a taxi service would be. Individuals have to plan their lives around the availability of bussing hours.
20. Some adults with IDD get minimal funding and are unable to participate in activities in the community.
21. Adequate companion care.
22. OT through MoveU.
23. The systems make it impossible to get the help within the time frames that will have the most benefit to your child. The amount of paperwork and appointments, the effect all these appointments have on your ability to work or maintain a good work history.
24. individual day services in community groups.
25. I would say transportation due to lack of availability due to route lines, as well as times the bus is offered. Cost can also be a factor for individuals served in our department. Housing is also a big contributor, due to costs, eligibility, availability, i.e. excessive wait times, lack of resources to provide housing at affordable prices when individuals are solely on social security income, and/or if they are a felon. Mental health services have a lack of availability

overall, as well as wait times to have an initial appointment.

26. Even though my son has ASD, Level 1, we don't (just barely) qualify for Family Support 360. That would be a huge benefit and support for my son and our family so I may see to reapply.
27. IL services, however, turnover in staffing is very high; lack of consistency for family members/individuals with disabilities
28. Functional medicine physician and other alternative therapies.
29. Our services are doing well now. We waited 3 years for an opening with the provider. Makes me wonder how many other folks are waiting to enjoy the activities they are missing.
30. Transportation--even in the larger cities where transportation options are available they can be very expensive (especially any publicly available transportation). Options like Dial-a-Ride or some transportation through CSPs offer low-cost ride options but even these can be out of reach for many Participants who rely solely on SSI so they are on a shoestring budget.
31. Specialty doctors in Western SD are hard to get appointments for. Trainings offered by the DDD generally have 2-3 dates in Eastern SD and one in Rapid City. It would be nice to have DDD/state trainings in the northern hills too.
32. Not enough resources in the schools
33. In home nursing cares.
34. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy have declined in the school setting and insurance is difficult to utilize and after school hours is less valuable. I wish there was better support in context of school.
35. See above - ABA therapy would make my children's lives safer and enable us to spend more time in the community. However, it is \$9,000 out of pocket after insurance. We do not qualify for any other programs that could help pay for it besides FS360.

Q8 Are there important needs facing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that don't get enough attention?

Answered: 58 Skipped: 50

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Respite care providers are scarce and not easily identified nor available.	9/14/2025 3:23 PM
2	Teaching them how to act in public . I believe because of covid they took away going out to help at places	9/14/2025 1:30 AM
3	See above. Safe, high quality life after natural supports are gone	9/12/2025 8:09 PM
4	Yes	9/11/2025 4:55 PM
5	A lot of talk about natural supports but these are difficult to find as neighbors get wearing of ongoing requests and support needs.	9/11/2025 2:29 PM
6	Staff shortage in homes -- this causes many barriers to participation in the life of the community! Residential Home shortage -- CSPs don't have enough homes to provide the many people who need a place to stay (this also plays hand-in-hand with not enough staff to provide assistance to additional homes that could possibly be built). Wheelchair accessible activities -- Many times, attempting to participate in the community is hard for those with wheelchairs (parking, access to venue, terrain of venue, etc).	9/9/2025 12:03 PM
7	Crisis Care for those with behavioral challenges, residential options for those in the 18-21 age group who may no longer want to live at home.	9/5/2025 4:02 PM
8	Yes.	9/2/2025 4:01 PM
9	Who oversees the agencies that provide services? At least one large agency has too much power and clients suffer.	8/30/2025 10:49 AM
10	Housing and staff	8/29/2025 4:58 PM
11	Yes, we see the turnover in staffing in group homes as a huge problem. People with Autism or DD need to follow a schedule and changes in that schedule affect that person's quality of life. I don't know if it is a monetary problem or just a shortage of workers for a high stress job.	8/29/2025 12:46 PM
12	They need to get out in the community more enjoy activities in the community.	8/29/2025 12:19 PM
13	Transportation and Employment opportunities.	8/29/2025 10:58 AM
14	There are people who do not get accepted to traditional services with Community Support Providers due to having intensive needs that cannot be met by CSP's. There is a need for an adult ICF in addition to SDDC, as SDDC is at capacity and it is impossible to get placement there. SDDC struggles to find enough employees so that limits their capacity.	8/29/2025 9:05 AM
15	Not that I can think of	8/29/2025 9:01 AM
16	Isolation due to rural living makes services hard to access. Virtual services need to be made more accessible to the rural community.	8/26/2025 11:32 AM
17	Education for those who do not understand what those on the spectrum go through. There are no resources.	8/20/2025 11:21 PM
18	Options for community integration	8/15/2025 3:04 PM
19	exposure to work, work hardening skills, social skills in all environments	8/15/2025 8:51 AM
20	Food needs people on the spectrum have aversion to most Food and have particular items they will only eat. Families need support!	8/14/2025 7:08 AM
21	No	8/14/2025 4:56 AM

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22	I don't know.	8/13/2025 12:25 PM
23	Yes equally	8/13/2025 11:51 AM
24	Yes	8/13/2025 11:45 AM
25	Learning how to advocate and navigate services in SD	8/12/2025 4:35 PM
26	Yes, there are a lot of needs with people with different abilities.	8/8/2025 9:19 PM
27	Yes. Navigating the online world, including the proper use of social media for those with the capacity to do that.	7/8/2025 10:53 AM
28	The Big Beautiful Bill and how it will affect services.	7/7/2025 3:11 PM
29	One shoe doesn't fit all, each person is there own individual. Something that works for someone else may not work the same for another. In order to be successful there has to be a level of understanding and flexibility to properly accommodate everyone.	7/7/2025 12:47 PM
30	No two people are the same. We have to be aware that the needs for people are not all the same and we have to have an adaptable system to that can cater to all individuals.	7/7/2025 12:42 PM
31	Nutrition	7/7/2025 11:47 AM
32	Transportation, support, understanding, access, and empathy - they need very easy to find, access, and acquire resources. It's hard already without I/DD to find support	7/7/2025 10:18 AM
33	Funding. Funding drives most things that positively or negatively impact an individual's life. From the assistance they get to the staff that get hired. Without an increase in funding quality staff may not get hire due to non-competitive wages.	7/7/2025 10:15 AM
34	Facilities that have wheelchair accessibility or places for adults in briefs.	7/7/2025 9:58 AM
35	Lack of accountability. Persons I have worked with that have Individuals with disabilities are frustrated because they are treated like children and spoken down to. They ought to and want to be held to a higher standard that they can obtain and that will challenge them.	7/7/2025 8:53 AM
36	Unsure at this time, as I am new to this role	7/2/2025 6:38 PM
37	transportation	7/1/2025 12:15 PM
38	Federal climate	6/26/2025 7:48 PM
39	Yes, there are not enough services that are able to be met. Schools are struggling to meet the needs because of lack of staffing and lack of education.	6/26/2025 1:16 PM
40	Mental health	6/24/2025 8:12 PM
41	Respite opportunities for caregivers. Summer camp opportunities for adults with disabilities.	6/24/2025 6:14 AM
42	Friendship opportunities, greater willingness' of local employers to give our children a chance and work for them. Better training for educators and employers on how to communicate and work with those who have ASD. Improved training for private schools.	6/20/2025 10:01 AM
43	Where do I start? It depends upon the various needs of the individual but it first starts with peoples ability to know what services are available. For years, I have struggled to let people know if the various services that even just DD Council has available, let alone the myriad of other available services. Letting people know where and how to access services continues to be a great challenge.	6/17/2025 2:18 PM
44	Mental health and health care disparities.	6/17/2025 12:46 PM
45	Yes, the need for more social interaction in a supported environment.	6/17/2025 10:25 AM
46	Community with other asd members/adult services	6/17/2025 10:05 AM
47	Medical care	6/17/2025 7:32 AM
48	Classrooms size and supports from the school district that provide the needs and learning abilities of the child. Looking at the least restrictive environment from the needs of the child with the disabilities.	6/16/2025 11:32 PM
49	More affordable housing	6/16/2025 10:56 PM

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50	Yes many	6/16/2025 6:07 PM
51	Exposing individuals with disabilities to social environments at earlier ages, i.e., skill building during middle school years	6/16/2025 1:29 PM
52	Yes. Coordination and education with local law enforcement on dealing with individuals with special needs. It would be wonderful if all SD communities/counties would adopt the "Be Safe Program/Return Me Safe" program.	6/16/2025 9:55 AM
53	I see the biggest problem is getting folks who are qualified and willing to serve.	6/15/2025 2:51 PM
54	Any Participants and their families who struggle with difficult/aggressive behaviors--most CSPs don't want to work with them and jails/mental health hospitals/nursing homes have no idea how to handle them--though this is often where they end up--sometimes long-term. Or their families end up forced to care for them even if they aren't reasonably able to--this leaves the families feeling ignored/abandoned by the very people who are supposed to be helping them--social services/the State. It also leaves the Participant vulnerable to unfortunate situations of Abuse/Exploitation/Neglect.	6/12/2025 4:01 PM
55	Yes.	6/11/2025 9:20 AM
56	Largest minority with the least representation	6/10/2025 7:04 PM
57	As children with disabilities grow, therapies and support declines even though there aren't any changes in data.	6/10/2025 2:06 PM
58	Social programming for disabled children is so important and is often overlooked! Thankfully we have a local nonprofit organization that makes this possible, but if not for them, it would be very challenging for us.	6/10/2025 1:31 PM

Q9 What ideas do you have for the Council that could help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 58

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Dreaming big: an inclusive community - think like a retirement community with patio home/twin homes/apts as well as assisted living as needed for individuals with disabilities. Or even partner with current retirement communities to create this space. - reliable affordable transportation - community community community. It feels like a silo; we feel so alone and unheard but know we can't be the only ones facing this	9/12/2025 8:09 PM
2	Building more houses and making it so that every family that requires housing, gets it.	9/11/2025 4:55 PM
3	Give people a roadmap of services...and a roadmap of what decisions happen and when..... make it available on a state website.... And part of a IEP early on at school... which is where people are usually when they first learn there is a disability.	9/11/2025 3:36 PM
4	Training for community providers (for example providers through family support) on how to move past accessing the community to actually help people integrate into social networks and build relationships independent of the provider.	9/11/2025 2:29 PM
5	Work more with senior citizen handicapped people who are an ever growing population. They have many needs that are not being met.	9/2/2025 4:01 PM
6	Can you find a system that is simpler and client focused? Or if this destined to be like all healthcare i.e. overblown and lost its true mission??	8/30/2025 10:49 AM
7	Work with people/families who already have accessible housing, like us, to purchase them and have smaller but accessible community housing.	8/29/2025 4:58 PM
8	Helping those of us who have older children with disabilities navigate the future of our child when we are no longer able to do so.	8/29/2025 12:46 PM
9	Stop spending so much time in the office/computer and interact more with residents.	8/29/2025 12:19 PM
10	Embracing technology rather than viewing it as restrictive.	8/29/2025 10:58 AM
11	Have intentional meetings with self-advocates and families to solicit their feedback.	8/29/2025 9:05 AM
12	Nothing currently	8/29/2025 9:01 AM
13	No ideas as of yet.	8/20/2025 11:21 PM
14	Provide more financial assistance for group activities to take place with younger kiddos - in middle school, obtain involvement of their peers and other community members	8/15/2025 8:51 AM
15	More people then you realize have disabilities that aren't tabulated on SSI or on any list. People have found ways to struggle in silence	8/14/2025 7:08 AM
16	Advertising the services available in the community.	8/13/2025 12:25 PM
17	Lobbying. Education	8/13/2025 11:51 AM
18	Issue awareness and advocacy	8/13/2025 11:45 AM
19	Networking opportunities with important key stakeholders in SD	8/12/2025 4:35 PM
20	Supports and information for families starting sooner (like elementary aged). As a former special education teacher in the K12 system, I always felt like only the "go-getter" parents (those with education and often times money), were able to navigate the supports and services they would need as their child aged.	8/11/2025 11:31 AM
21	Don't be afraid to be heard, because every individual is heard.	8/8/2025 9:19 PM

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22	Creating a resource guide online that touches on the different areas above, something similar to TED talks. More seminars offered for not just staff to attend, but individuals and families, also.	7/8/2025 10:53 AM
23	N/A	7/7/2025 3:11 PM
24	Higher funding to match the higher inflation.	7/7/2025 12:47 PM
25	The SSI/SSDI system needs restructured. We are treating people with a broken leg who WILL recover the same as someone who was born with spina bifida (for example) and will forever live with this "disability". These need to be categorized into long term and short term disability.	7/7/2025 12:42 PM
26	We must do a better job of providing healthy meals and snacks	7/7/2025 11:47 AM
27	A resource fair at least yearly bringing in all of the different supports there to assist in educating, signing people up, and connecting them to resources. If you don't know what the support is called it's really hard to find it. Making user friendly worksheets ex. to get admitted to a CSP make a checklist of all the documentation needed and where to get it.	7/7/2025 10:18 AM
28	Having more of a presence within the state. I would not know this council existed if I were not working in this field. I think it is imperative that communities know of this Council and the great work and advocacy that they do. The more exposure the state has to these systems the more advocates you can create on behalf of the individuals that are supported in the state.	7/7/2025 10:15 AM
29	We need more community outreach and groups.	7/7/2025 9:58 AM
30	More input from DSS, guardians, and people supported in the outcome of their life	7/7/2025 9:28 AM
31	n/a	7/1/2025 12:15 PM
32	I feel that information on organizations such as SD Parent Connection should be shared more. So many families and professionals are unaware of what is available to them.	6/26/2025 1:16 PM
33	Have meetups/activities in Various communities - even monthly Support groups for parents and caregivers	6/24/2025 8:12 PM
34	See above.	6/20/2025 10:01 AM
35	Advertising availability	6/17/2025 2:18 PM
36	Ease of companion care supports as well as generalized training.	6/17/2025 12:46 PM
37	Partnering with local universities to offer a pool of respite/companion providers as this can be very difficult for people to find.	6/17/2025 10:25 AM
38	Create space for community for adults and youth	6/17/2025 10:05 AM
39	Day services be optional	6/17/2025 7:32 AM
40	Standardize paperwork across platforms to remove the burden for parents. Have an advocates assigned to each parent to support them and teach them the ins and outs. Shorten the waiting time for family support 360- it took almost 2 years and that is a lot of precious time lost. The public school system needs to see that forcing these children into a classroom that doesn't provide and meet their needs is destroying any chance our children have to live their best lives.	6/16/2025 11:32 PM
41	Housing, employment and the service dog laws need to be updated in the state so people who need to start training their own service animals can go around currently there is a law stating that Service dogs in training aren't allowed to go in stores to get them used to being in public.	6/16/2025 10:56 PM
42	Combination of mental health /intellectual training	6/16/2025 6:07 PM
43	Promote the 18-21 programs in more school districts; promote the initiation of these types of programs in schools with youth at younger ages	6/16/2025 1:29 PM
44	Streamline the process to apply for Family 360 (and other similar programs) easier and quicker. It should not take months/years to get qualified.	6/16/2025 9:55 AM
45	I would like to see a degree that folks can earn to be qualified to fill positions needed.	6/15/2025 2:51 PM
46	Talk to teachers/case managers/families/Participants--we live these issues all day, every day. We can tell you what's wrong/what's needed--and then actually listen to us and take our	6/12/2025 4:01 PM

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suggestions to heart when making policy.

47	Outreach to K12 kids aging out of schools need guidance earlier to help them make decisions.	6/11/2025 9:20 AM
48	More resources for families and professionals	6/10/2025 7:04 PM
49	-	6/10/2025 2:06 PM
50	Prioritize getting support to the families that need it - take action to reduce/eliminate the time on the FS360 waitlist.	6/10/2025 1:31 PM

Q10 Are there specific self-advocacy activities you would like the Council to focus on during this next State Plan? Please share your ideas below.

Answered: 37 Skipped: 71

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	helping agency self-advocacy groups thrive	9/5/2025 4:02 PM
2	Training for families similar to the Partners In Policymaking classes - information about special ed laws or disability services and how to advocate.	9/4/2025 12:54 PM
3	No	8/29/2025 4:58 PM
4	NO	8/29/2025 12:46 PM
5	Get out in the community and do more activities	8/29/2025 12:19 PM
6	How to have a voice to affect change in services.	8/29/2025 9:05 AM
7	Nothing Currently	8/29/2025 9:01 AM
8	Self-advocacy support and training for middle to high school aged kids.	8/26/2025 11:32 AM
9	Not as of yet.	8/20/2025 11:21 PM
10	Target younger kiddos, family members with grant activities - since schools are not on board yet - even high school since the Project Skills teacher is ONLY part time - not enough time and effort focused on this in jr high and high school, and what about activities for older adults with disabilities as well as they seem to have been forgotten.....	8/15/2025 8:51 AM
11	Support. For both individuals w disabilities and their families. The view point of help and connections doesn't make you weak	8/14/2025 7:08 AM
12	No	8/14/2025 4:56 AM
13	Giving the communities knowledge in the smaller towns - some can't make it to conferences outside of their area.	8/13/2025 12:25 PM
14	Support of Medicaid Waiver and other IL programs and services	8/13/2025 11:45 AM
15	No	8/12/2025 4:35 PM
16	I don't believe so.	8/8/2025 9:19 PM
17	More training on how to self-advocate, but perhaps even moreso, equipping caregivers and staff to coach individuals in this area using real-life scenarios. Many staff do all the advocating, but they need to be coaching where possible, giving those with I/DD a voice of their own.	7/8/2025 10:53 AM
18	Guardianship, informed consent, rights.	7/7/2025 3:11 PM
19	no	7/7/2025 11:47 AM
20	Ways to Advocate for yourself and how. Resources that are clear and concise such as a resource book of who you can talk to about issues, emails, websites, where you can go to simply use the internet to advocate for needs, wants, and to find help.	7/7/2025 10:18 AM
21	Community exposure. I know that can be difficult to schedule and plan, and sometimes costly. I just feel that any exposure would be great!	7/7/2025 10:15 AM
22	initiate mandatory team meetings when decisions made that affect people with disabilities.	7/7/2025 9:28 AM
23	no	7/7/2025 8:53 AM
24	partners in policy making	7/1/2025 12:15 PM

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25	Caregivers and educators alike should be educated and empowered to speak up, and to seek help and more education when they need it.	6/26/2025 1:16 PM
26	Learning to drive Transitions Planning for the future - as caregivers, what happens to the disabled when we pass away of nothing is planned or written.	6/24/2025 8:12 PM
27	Friendship groups that are carefully monitored and well-advertised.	6/20/2025 10:01 AM
28	SD medical practitioners having persons with disabilities at the planning table.	6/17/2025 12:46 PM
29	Yes. I would like to see more asd leadership	6/17/2025 10:05 AM
30	The annual partners in policy making conference	6/16/2025 10:56 PM
31	Yes in each area of the state so you can get more participation	6/16/2025 6:07 PM
32	Social skills development	6/16/2025 1:29 PM
33	Housing	6/15/2025 2:51 PM
34	Talk with Participants/their families and caregivers!	6/12/2025 4:01 PM
35	More self- advocate who are CtLC ambassadors.	6/11/2025 9:20 AM
36	IEP professional development	6/10/2025 7:04 PM
37	-	6/10/2025 2:06 PM

Q11 What other information, if any, do you want us to know as we create this plan?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 77

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Adults with special needs want to fit in if that's having a volunteer come once or twice a month just playing games or doing a puzzle. You all know there's not enough staff to have one on ones with the adult person going to the day service. My son has the best aids in his room they do what they can and love their jobs you can hear it in there voice and smile	9/14/2025 1:30 AM
2	Thank you. Know you and your work ate appreciated!	9/12/2025 8:09 PM
3	We are in a very unique situation because of this complex & unique disability that our daughter lives with. We need help & we can't get any.	9/11/2025 4:55 PM
4	24/7 care	9/2/2025 1:22 PM
5	Families want their children to be able to stay in a residential house and if it is already accessible, it would likely be an opportunity to buy it and have an automatic house for 5 or 6 people.	8/29/2025 4:58 PM
6	None	8/29/2025 12:46 PM
7	House could interact with one another instead of just their own house	8/29/2025 12:19 PM
8	n/a	8/29/2025 9:05 AM
9	I'm with Shared Living with LifeScape and would like to know how all Shared Living Supervisors are doing and just to share ideas	8/29/2025 9:01 AM
10	Remember those of us more than an hour away from the larger cities and the difficulties we face being so rural with children with disabilities and lack of communication resources. We need more support and services in the rural communities of SD.	8/26/2025 11:32 AM
11	Nothing as of now	8/20/2025 11:21 PM
12	Population of older adults is growing fast - what about activities that support this part of the generation as well as youth....	8/15/2025 8:51 AM
13	As a member of the Mitchell Area Inclusion Coalition we focus on educational activities so community members are aware of view points other than the "norm"	8/14/2025 7:08 AM
14	No	8/14/2025 4:56 AM
15	N/a	8/13/2025 12:25 PM
16	N/A	8/13/2025 11:45 AM
17	None	8/12/2025 4:35 PM
18	Thank you for all you do. For being a voice.	8/11/2025 11:31 AM
19	I don't believe so.	8/8/2025 9:19 PM
20	We as individuals without disabilities have difficulties navigating our world at times. How much more for those with them! We need to look more closely than we do at all the things we tend to take for granted, and consider the challenges they present for individuals with I/DD. These challenges are vast, but with increasing awareness and education, they become fewer and less intense.	7/8/2025 10:53 AM
21	Take into consideration both the people with disabilities and those that spend their lives helping them to achieve their goals.	7/7/2025 12:47 PM
22	Mental health seems to be affecting a large percentage of our population. As a society we	7/7/2025 10:18 AM

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seem to be reactive to it as opposed to proactive. We aren't looking at why there is a breakdown in mental health, why people are acting out, or what is causing the root of the issue.

23	CEOs need to be present and lead by example. Our CEO is gone more than present	7/7/2025 9:28 AM
24	n/a	7/1/2025 12:15 PM
25	Is there a way to offer free education/training about ASD to private schools, like Sioux Falls Christian? They seem to lack awareness training, resources to help and understand those with ASD. My child is NOT the only one. There are several children with ASD who attend SFC, and they are not well-equipped to set them up for success (in my experience).	6/20/2025 10:01 AM
26	The school system is failing these children. I have a son would can barely write his name, who has CP and the IEP team decided to stop his physical therapy in the 3rd grade.	6/16/2025 11:32 PM
27	please know that many people who have disabilities face many challenges in life and without your guidance I myself wouldn't know about the laws some are so outdated that they need to be updated.	6/16/2025 10:56 PM
28	Traveling is hard for many.	6/16/2025 6:07 PM
29	none	6/16/2025 1:29 PM
30	We focus so hard on giving Participants their Rights but don't stress with them the Responsibilities that go along with those Rights. Also due to the State's fears of "Rights Restrictions" it's hard to protect people who regularly/willfully make terrible choices and open themselves up to Abuse/Neglect/Exploitation and/or put the Greater Community at risk due to their poor choices/actions. Then they end up in trouble with Law Enforcement, homeless, etc. and the State's only response is, "well, they have their Rights!" Many of the Participants we work with have the cognitive age of a 12-year old (and often younger)--based on the ICAP--yet we expect them to successfully navigate complicated adult situations/decisions.	6/12/2025 4:01 PM
31	Better prepared SPED teacher training	6/10/2025 7:04 PM