

2025 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: Housing tailored to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) is crucial and continued discussions for next year's legislative agenda is a priority. Money from previous appropriations for housing for this vulnerable population is gone, and if capital isn't available, it will be difficult to purchase or build at current costs.

APPROPRIATE \$25 MILLION to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) to fund continuation of the competitive grant program for affordable housing for individuals with I/DD.

- ✓ Affordable housing deepens community integration, improves quality of life, and increases independence and self-sufficiency for this vulnerable population.

RETAIN FLEXIBILITY for FHFC to collaborate with stakeholders like the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) to determine optimal housing models (community residential homes, supported living units, larger multifamily apartment communities).

- ✓ Since 2014, 636 new beds have opened in small community group homes and small, supported living units, and nine larger apartment communities were built with a total of 732 units scattered throughout the state.

CONSIDER UTILIZING LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDITS along with grants to support development of larger I/DD affordable rental properties, when appropriate.

- ✓ Investment in I/DD housing has potential to reduce costly emergency/crisis housing placements and high-end healthcare utilization.

COLLABORATE WITH STATE AGENCIES to create a comprehensive strategy promoting housing stability, self-sufficiency, and community access for the I/DD population.

- ✓ This aligns with state objectives to support communities, provide person-centered services, and meet the needs of Florida's disability population.



The Arc of Florida supports the need for individuals with I/DD to live independently in their own community with dignity and choice.