



MOHR is an all-volunteer 501c(6) non-profit association that supports nearly 100 disability services provider organizations statewide. With MOHR's support, member organizations provide meaningful employment and day services to thousands of Minnesotans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## WHAT ARE DAY AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES?

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities turn to MOHR member organizations to provide the supports to work, grow skills, and meaningfully engage in their communities.

**Employment services** support people with disabilities in exploring, planning for, finding, and keeping jobs that meet their strengths, interests, and support needs. Jobs give people with disabilities the chance to earn money, use their talents, and be part of the community —just like everyone else in Minnesota.

**Day services** provide the support infrastructure – transportation, accessible third spaces, support staff, activity planning – to allow adults with disabilities to be active in the community, engage in volunteer opportunities, build their skills, and explore recreational interests.



## WHY DO THESE SERVICES MATTER?

People with disabilities represent the largest minority group in the country. These individuals deserve to find meaningful work and opportunities to explore their personal interests, goals and contributions. Additionally, employing people with disabilities has been shown to benefit businesses, giving them increased productivity and access to a broader pool of workers.



## MOHR BY THE NUMBERS

# 97

Number of member organizations in MOHR; nearly all the employment and day services providers in Minnesota.

# 17,100

Number of Minnesotans with disabilities and their families that rely on MOHR member organizations for employment and day services.

# 100%

Percentage of Minnesota's 87 counties served by member organizations.

# 10,526

Total staff positions across MOHR member organizations. Over 7% are vacant.

# 20%

Percentage of Minnesotans that live with one or more disabilities.

# 3,000+

Number of Minnesotans with a disability on a waiting list for employment or day supports due to provider staff shortages.

Get In Touch: [MOHRMN.com](http://MOHRMN.com)

# 2025 Legislative Priorities



We realize legislators must grapple with difficult decisions this session about meeting Minnesota's future needs with revenue available. **We urge you to see your community members with disabilities and their support staff as a priority as you make these tough decisions.**

## **Please advocate this session to protect and prioritize funding for disability services.**

It's already hard to offer our valuable disability service staff the competitive wages and benefits they deserve. We need to move forward - not backward, as the Governor's proposed cuts would do - in addressing the workforce shortage to better support Minnesotans with disabilities in living the full lives people without disabilities take for granted. The Governor's proposed cuts to waiver-funded disability services will make it harder for Minnesotans with disabilities to live connected and engaged lives. Further, because state spending on waiver-funded disability services is matched by federal funding, for every dollar the state cuts, individuals and providers experience a cut of twice that amount.

## **In 2025 and beyond, MOHR asks the Minnesota State Legislature to:**

**Prioritize our community members with disabilities, their families, and their support staff** by strengthening the Disability Waiver Rate System (DWRS) so that it better reflects the true costs of providing disability services (**SF402/HF382**). SF402/HF382 seeks to increase the Direct Support Professional (DSP) wage as well as the Supervisor wage, for services funded through the Disability Waiver Rate System.

- This will help address the currently too-low wages afforded to critical front-line disability services staff. These low wages negatively impact the ability of organizations to attract and retain skilled staff, which in turn makes it harder for people across Minnesota with significant disabilities to access the supports they need to gain new skills and increase their independence.

**Protect and prioritize the critical employment supports** provided to Minnesotans with disabilities through the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).

**Advance system-wide policy and funding reforms** to move employment and day services forward through innovation and streamlining.

