



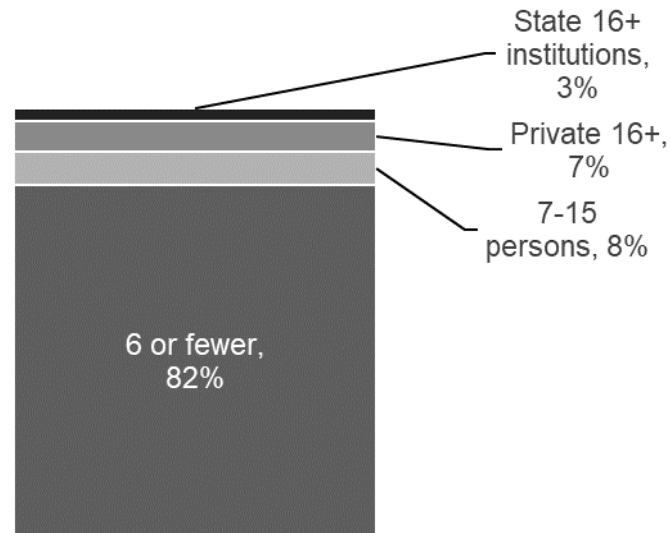
Challenges Facing People with Disabilities During the Pandemic

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Where Do People with Disabilities Live?

- Group Homes and ICF: People with I/DD: In FY2015, 559,172 people (82%) who lived outside of their family home resided in settings for six or fewer.



Where Do People with Disabilities Live?

- Mathematica found almost 190,000 non-elderly people with physical disabilities, over 77,000 with intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD), and over 34,000 with psychiatric disabilities living in Medicaid-supported nursing homes, intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, psychiatric facilities, or long-term care hospitals for at least 90 continuous days.
- The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors found that approximately 40,000 people with mental illness reside in state mental health institutions (2014).
- 2019 HUD Annual Homeless Point In Time found 34,195 individuals in shelter experiencing chronic homelessness and 60,783 unsheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Definition of chronic homelessness includes having a disabling condition.

People with Disabilities in Nursing Facilities

- Estimated 20% of 1.4 million nursing facility residents are under age 65 (2015).
- **The most recently available data show long-term care facilities account for 8% of all coronavirus cases but more than 40% of all COVID-19 deaths.**
- Residents in facilities that serve a relatively large share of Black and Hispanic residents have been disproportionately affected by the coronavirus.



People with Disabilities Choose to Live in the Community

- Example: CMS/Medicaid Money Follows Person (MFP) Program transitioned from nursing facilities to community – many to own apartment
 - ▶ PD 38,961
 - ▶ ID/DD 16,199
 - ▶ SMI 7,436
- To transition or de-congregate need **affordable, accessible housing and community based support services!**

Some COVID Challenges

- Lack of PPE in nursing facilities, group homes and other congregate settings
- Nursing facilities – lock down
- Housing application process slowed
- Medicaid-funded services expanded, but not HCBS slots

Policy Solutions – During COVID

- Ensure stable housing = eviction moratorium, funds for rent and utility arrears
- Equitably prioritize decompression resources for people with disabilities existing institutions and congregate settings (not just “public institutions”)
- Equal access to programs funded with FEMA, ESG, CRF, and CDBG funds
- Pass emergency relief now!
 - ▶ \$100 Billion for Emergency Rental Assistance
 - ▶ \$11.5 for Emergency Solutions Grant program
 - ▶ \$10 billion for Housing Choice Voucher program

What You Can Do Now to Keep People with Disabilities Safe!

- Make sure your local Public Housing Agency (PHA) responds to HUD PIH Notice 2020-09 to secure Mainstream Vouchers for people with disabilities including people living in institutions or who are experiencing homelessness in your community
 - ▶ <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PIH-2020-22-OPHVPCARESActImplementationForMainstream.pdf>

- On September 23, 2020, CMS announced a supplemental funding opportunity available to the 33 MFP demonstration states that are currently operating MFP funded transition programs.
 - ▶ Under this supplemental funding opportunity, up to \$5 million in MFP grant funds is being made available to each eligible state for planning and capacity building activities to accelerate LTSS system transformation design and implementation and to expand HCBS capacity.