Vermont's Designated and Specialized Services Agencies are essential to Vermont's economy, safety net, and health reform efforts. They effectively serve Vermonters with complex health conditions, preventing unnecessary and costly care.

But... Low Medicaid reimbursement rates have reduced wages for the agencies' 13,000 direct care workers. Today, there are more than 400 staff vacancies system-wide.

**What needs to Change?**

DESIGNATED AND SPECIALIZED SERVICE WORKERS NEED A LIVABLE WAGE.

Did you know?

The yearly staff turnover rate is 26% and the yearly cost to train and replace staff is $4,675,840.

To learn more about Vermont's Designated and Specialized Service Agency workers, and the impact of chronic underfunding, contact the Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council by phone: 802-828-1310 or email: vtddc@vermont.gov

**Who uses a Designated Agency?**

- People with Developmental Disabilities
- People improving their Mental Health
- People recovering from Substance Use

**AGENCY COMPENSATION VS. EQUIVALENT STATE POSITIONS**

When compared to the State, there is a substantial funding gap for Agency staff.