# NACDD SA Discussion SeriesDecember 16, 2021

### **Topic: Housing**

Nineteen people in attendance.

Discussion Starters

Pat Nobbie shared some of the important housing initiatives that Anthem supports.

For example: HCBS waiver, homelessness/unstably housed, landlord incentive program, modifications, transportation, Money Follows the Person, person centered planning and other customized housing services and supports. Check with your insurance company to see if it has programs that may help you to seek and obtain housing support.

Erin Prangley, NACDD Director of Public Policy shared several housing statistics for people with disabilities and important housing policies. For example: *Disabled adults experience poverty at more than twice the rate of nondisabled adults; nearly half of adults ages 25 to 61 who have lived in poverty for at least one year have a disability, while point-in-time counts suggest that nearly 25 percent of the more than 580,000 people experiencing homelessness on any given night in the United States have a disability.* [CAP article, May 2021]

The Build Back Better bill has set aside 1.7 trillion dollars to purchase affordable housing units. It also includes Money Follows the Person (which supports people with disabilities that want to move out of nursing homes and institutions), HCBS, the removal of asset limits and more. In addition, ABLE accounts and the elimination of sub-minimum wage are also important programs and policies that impact income and housing for people with disabilities.

Comments from participants

In Michigan they are advocating for new low-income housing to be built with accessible accommodations as opposed to the more costly method of retrofitting homes after they have been built.

One advocate reported that they live in their own apartment with roommates. Another shared that they stay with different family members but would also like to try a roommate arrangement. A third mentioned that they were just approved this spring for housing.

Other resources/ideas shared by participants that may be useful for housing

HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development
<https://www.hud.gov/>
CIL – Centers for Independent Living
<https://acl.gov/programs/aging-and-disability-networks/centers-independent-living>
Disability Providers – The Arc
<https://thearc.org/?s=housing>
Insurance carriers
Add a housing goal to an Individualized Plan (IP)
Check college campuses to find potential roommates

Articles

Article about housing statistics for people with disabilities and ideas to help overcome the housing crisis for people with disabilities.

<https://www.americanprogress.org/article/recognizing-addressing-housing-insecurity-disabled-renters/#:~:text=Disabled%20adults%20experience%20poverty%20at,experiencing%20homelessness%20on%20any%20given>

Overview of housing programs for people with disabilities from The Arc.
<https://thearc.org/policy-advocacy/housing/>

Save the Date: The next NACDD Self-Advocacy Discussion Series will be Thursday, February 14, 2022, at 4:00 pm Eastern.