

## **A Message from the Chair:**

The Fair Shake Network (FSN) is an association of West Virginians dedicated to a “fair shake” for people with disabilities. Our mission is to educate policymakers and the public about disability issues and to empower people with disabilities to speak for themselves. The vision of FSN is “People with disabilities have an opportunity to equally participate in their communities and realize their dreams.”

FSN will monitor all legislation introduced that may affect the disability community. FSN urges the Legislature and the Executive Branch to invest in people with disabilities and their invaluable resources, and contributions to West Virginia. *Please* support the 2021 Disability Agenda.

*Kelly Simpson, FSN Chair*

### **1. Home and Community Based Services and Supports:**

FSN will advocate for Home and Community Based Services and other services to bring WV into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

FSN **will not** support the development of segregated/congregate service settings.

### **2. Independent Living Services:**

FSN will Advocate to expand the network of Centers for Independent Living (CILs) statewide to ensure every West Virginian with a disability has access to the services and resources provided by a CIL

### **3. Human Rights**

FSN will advocate for legislation that protects people with disabilities from abuse, neglect, bullying, exploitation, and other rights violations.

### **4. Employment:**

FSN will Advocate for and promote valued, integrated employment with competitive wages as a first and preferred outcome for all people with disabilities who want to work.

Phase out sub-minimum wages for people with disabilities.

Support policies, initiatives, and services that lead to more employment.

Advocate for tax breaks and other incentives that encourage employers to hire people with disabilities.

### **5. Housing:**

FSN will advocate for housing legislation that increases the statewide availability of accessible, economical, integrated, and safe community based housing. We will support any legislation that supports universal design in home construction.

### **Other Issues:**

FSN will monitor all legislation introduced that may affect people with disabilities such as:

- Guardianship
- Education
- Civil Commitment Process
- Emergency Preparedness
- Transportation



## **Funding Issues:**

FSN supports increases in funding necessary to maintain or enhance critical support services that allow people with disabilities to live, work, and engage in recreation in the community.

- All Medicaid Waiver Programs
- Birth-to-Three-Program
- Division of Rehabilitation Services  
Employment Attendant Care Program
- Extended Supported Employment Services
- Family Support
- Long-term and Services and Supports
- Medicaid Expansion Program
- Ron Yost Personal Assistance Services  
Program (RYPAS)
- Independent Living Services (CLSP)
- Statewide Network of CILs

**Disability Rights are Civil Rights!**

**For More Information,**

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## **FAIR SHAKE NETWORK**



**2021**

## **Disability Agenda**

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”*

**--Margaret Mead**