

# Better Together

Access • Equity • Inclusion • Choice

## 2021 Legislative Agenda



MINNESOTA  
CONSORTIUM FOR  
CITIZENS WITH  
DISABILITIES

### **Creating an equitable, accessible, safe, and just society**

- **Package of accessibility proposals** focuses on improving accessibility for people who have neurological, sensory or intellectual disabilities in areas that they often experience challenges.
- **Cassie's Law** allows judges to order neuropsychological evaluations of people with a history of stroke, brain injury or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder prior to sentencing, to improve outcomes for people caught up in the criminal justice system.
- **Rare Disease Access Bill** ensures that a person enrolled in a health plan can receive needed services related to the diagnosis and treatment of a rare disease or condition without access restrictions or greater financial burden for going out-of-network.

### **Promoting diversity, inclusion, and equity**

- **PCA rate reform** stabilizes rates for Personal Care Assistance services to increase wages and address the workforce shortage.
- **Rare Disease Advisory Council** changes the Minnesota Rare Disease Advisory Council to allow the council to operate independently and advocate for policy priorities in the interest of the rare disease community.
- **Expanding the Definition of Brain Injury** allows people who have acquired a brain injury because of fetal alcohol exposure to be eligible to apply for the Brain Injury waiver.
- **United Homecare Workers & Clients Collective Bargaining Agreement** recognizes the critical contributions of home care workers with a fair labor contract.

### **Improving and protecting essential supports and services**

- **Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) licensing bill** establishes a license for professionals in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) to ensure quality services and prevent the likelihood of misuse of behavior principles by people with insufficient training.
- **Personal Care Assistant/Direct Support Professional care during hospitalization** directs the Department of Human Services to work with stakeholders to create a plan to ensure that Minnesotans who have disabilities can access individualized direct support during hospitalization.

### **Supporting individual empowerment and choice**

- **A package of bills to transform disability services and supports** addresses racial inequities, promotes equitable access, and respects individuals' informed choice as they build belonging in community through competitive integrated employment, homes of their choice, and self-direction.
- **Reinstate Community Access for the PCA Program** allows PCAs to provide transportation for individuals who are unable to drive themselves, by adding driving to the list of instrumental activities of daily living.