

Focus on Families Supporting People with Intellectual Disabilities

CRPD on Families

The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State, and that persons with disabilities and their family members should receive the necessary protection and assistance to enable families to contribute towards the full and equal enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Families

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS
PROTECTORS
RESPECT
SUPPORT
WELLBEING
TRUST
TOGETHER
LINK TO COMMUNITY
LOVE
FAMILY UNIT

What families need

In all regions families provide the vast majority of support to people with intellectual disabilities. Uniquely, they do this throughout the entire life of their family member with an intellectual disability.



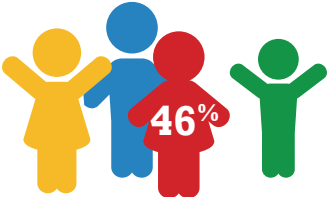
Challenges

The challenges families experience are not a result of disability but a result of the barriers in communities and lack of supports to individuals and families.

INCREASED STRESS

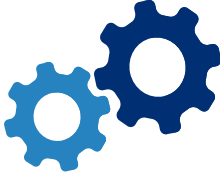


experienced mental health problems such as anxiety, depression or emotional breakdown due to isolation.



of parents/caregivers report that they have more caregiving responsibilities than they can handle.

INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT



More than 75% of families report they can't find afterschool care, non-institutional community services, trained reliable home care providers, summer care, residential, respite and other services. Lack of support results in lowered expectations.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Disability associated costs included communication devices, specialized foods and/or equipment.



LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In all regions, families reported impact on employment. Someone, usually the mother, reported being unable to work or needing to limit employment to stay home to support the needs of their family member with an intellectual disability.



SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH PUBLIC POLICY

Short breaks for parents

Capacity building of parents and their organizations

Tax relief

Examples of supporting families through public policy.

Cash transfers

Supports for working parents