

# Alliance Membership Benefits



Guide policy decisions

Gain insider information

Gain meaningful insight

*Alliance is the premier resource for Colorado providers serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). By tapping into the experience and knowledge of our diverse membership and the expertise of our staff, Alliance members access a wealth of resources to help them succeed in the ever-changing landscape of case management and service delivery.*

# FAST FACTS

**"I APPRECIATE ALL OF THE HARD WORK THAT ALLIANCE DOES ON OUR BEHALF; THEY ARE OUR EYES AND EARS IN DENVER. I CAN'T DO EVERYTHING FROM 300 MILES AWAY, NOR DO I HAVE THE TIME OR THE CAPACITY TO DO THE WORK THAT THEY DO. I CONTINUE TO BELIEVE COMMUNITY OPTIONS RECEIVES GREAT VALUE FROM OUR ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP."**

**- TOM TURNER,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OF COMMUNITY  
OPTIONS IN  
MONTROSE**

**Over the last five years, Alliance and its partners have accomplished a lot! Some notable achievements include:**

- Increasing annual funding for IDD services by more than \$175 million.
- Securing an additional \$14 million in funding for caseload growth in Early Intervention Services.
- Increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates for IDD services by 10.6% (or more for some services).
- Securing funding for an additional 1,518 people to enroll on the DD waiver to receive comprehensive services and supports.
- Securing public and private funding to lead a grassroots effort to train more than 2,600 IDD professionals and families in Person Centered Thinking.
- Increasing Alliance membership by 40% (24 new members in five years).
- Organizing IDD-agency site visits and "DSP for a Day" participation by more than 80 legislators from both sides of the aisle.
- Supporting successful passage of 58 bills to improve services and supports for people with IDD.
- Organizing one of the largest "Day at the Capitol" events each year with 500 people in attendance, including more than half of the General Assembly.



# Guide Policy Decisions

Alliance is an invaluable resource for legislators and other policy-makers on issues directly affecting citizens with IDD, their families, and their providers. As a respected voice at the Capitol, Alliance members directly influence the legislative process by testifying on important bills, developing legislative and budgetary solutions, and participating on committees with policymakers.

Alliance tracks, analyzes, and lobbies a number of bills every session, including proposals directly related to IDD services as well as those that impact providers' role as employers. In recent years, Alliance has demonstrated its leadership in this area through its success on major legislative initiatives, including getting hundreds of people off the waiting list for comprehensive services and securing a major infusion of funding to help providers recruit and retain direct support professionals.

Alliance also tracks, analyzes, and influences rule changes impacting IDD services at the state and federal level, as well as federal legislation. Alliance's leadership among state provider associations allows members to access benefits far beyond the boundaries of our great state.

Alliance has an ambitious public policy agenda for the next five years; we are taking on big issues that will forever change the landscape of the IDD System. With your help, we believe we are well-positioned to achieve these bold proposals. Find out more in our Public Policy Agenda available on our website: [www.alliancecolorado.org](http://www.alliancecolorado.org)



# Gain Insider Information

Alliance offers its members the most comprehensive, accurate, and timely information about the vast array of policy changes, initiatives, emerging practices, and stakeholder opportunities that exist in our fast-paced field. More importantly, members also get information about how those changes affect their agencies and the people they serve. Here are just some of the ways our members stay informed:

## ***A-Team News***

A-Team News is Alliance's weekly e-newsletter that keeps members up-to-date on everything related to IDD and more! In this communication, our members receive state and federal IDD updates, communications from all state departments, updates on rulemaking, invitations to important events, access to provider-specific webinars, IDD news, and much more.

## ***Alliance Member Portal***

On this members-only website, agencies have access to:

- Timely legislative updates
- A members-only legislative bill tracker
- Internal/external Alliance documents
- An alphabetical directory of ongoing issues
- Alliance policies and procedures
- Information about our annual Summit
- All formal communications sent out by Alliance
- Archived webinars
- Information on member discounts
- A forum to connect with peers
- A comprehensive database of scheduled meetings
- Alliance committee pages with agendas, minutes, and important documents.



## ***Alliance Capitol Chronicles***

During Colorado's Legislative session, Alliance members receive a weekly email called Alliance Capitol Chronicles which details all the critical developments that took place at the state Capitol, particularly as they relate to IDD policy. This publication is a comprehensive update of bills, conversations with legislators, committee hearings, budget decisions, political gossip, policy and election predictions, and much more.

## ***Webinars and Trainings***

As part of Alliance's ongoing effort to continue the momentum of Colorado's community-based IDD system toward one that celebrates individual choice and maintains thoughtful stewardship of public resources, we host thought-leader webinars and trainings for our members. Alliance staff and members work with leaders in the field to share their expertise with our membership in our webinar series. All webinars are archived on the Alliance Portal.



**"WE VALUE OUR ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP! IT'S ENABLED US TO ACCESS AND BETTER UNDERSTAND ISSUES AND GAIN MORE CREDIBILITY AND RESPECT FROM PROVIDERS, CCBS, AND OTHER VENDORS. AS A SMALL PROVIDER, IT'S AMAZING TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY AS A MEMBER OF ALLIANCE TO INFLUENCE STATE POLICY AFFECTING THE POPULATION WE SERVE. I APPRECIATE THE COMMITMENT, AND HIGHEST LEVEL OF ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF MEMBER AGENCIES AND AM GRATEFUL TO BE PART OF IT. ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP IS A LIFELINE FOR US."**

**- NARDOS TESFAMICHAEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THRIVE COMMUNITY OPTIONS IN AURORA**

# Gain Meaningful Insight

Sometimes, there's not a clear answer to a question in statute or rule, and agencies struggle to navigate the day-to-day complexities of providing support. When these situations arise, Alliance members love the opportunity to learn from each other about best business practices and the steps they can take to improve. Some of the best ways to network include:

## ***Alliance State Forum and Board Meetings***

The Alliance State Forum is an open discussion with the leadership from most state departments that work with our members and the populations they serve. Alliance also hosts in-person Board of Directors meetings and networking lunches for our members, and provides live video of most membership meetings.

## ***Alliance Committees***

Alliance has over 15 active committees that are working on public policy proposals and issues related to our complex system. We rely on our members who are subject matter experts to help make sure we are creating and shaping policy and legislation to best benefit the people our members serve. We also invite our IDD stakeholders to join many of our work groups.

## ***Alliance Summit***

The annual Alliance Summit is the only venue in Colorado for administrators and service providers to meet, learn from each other, and discuss innovative plans for the future of the IDD system. The Summit draws over 300 attendees each year and includes presentations by local and national experts in the field. The event offers opportunities for members to hear directly from key policymakers and thought leaders from around the world.



## ***IDD Awareness Day at the Capitol***

Each year, Alliance partners with The Arc of Colorado and JFK Partners to host Awareness Day, an event aimed at educating and creating awareness among legislators about the challenges and opportunities facing Coloradans with IDD and the community-based system that supports them. We also honor Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) from member organizations around the state. This event typically draws over 500 people, including more than half of Colorado's state legislators.

## ***Peer Networks***

The Alliance Peer Network gives members the opportunity to share, collaborate, and learn from one another through in-person meetings, online forums, and fun networking opportunities throughout the year and at the Alliance Summit. We currently have 13 Peer Networks!

## ***Community Events***

Alliance is excited to partner with the Colorado Rockies and the Colorado Rapids to offer discounted tickets for Alliance members, their staff, families, friends, and the people they serve and invited guests!

# And More...

Alliance members get discounts from preferred vendors, assistance with Medicaid billing issues and revalidation, regional in-person meetings with Alliance Staff, a seat on the Alliance Board of Directors, marketing opportunities, an invitation to the Six State Summit, sample templates and forms, advocacy training, access to IDD experts on the state and national levels, and much more.



**"I AM ALWAYS BLOWN AWAY BY THE QUALITY WORK ALLIANCE DOES. I FEEL LIKE I'VE GROWN SO MUCH PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY SINCE JOINING. THANKS FOR HAVING SUCH A STRONG IMPACT ON ME AND MY COMPANY'S FUTURE!"**

*– Bryn Baldassari, Executive Director of Stepping Stone Support Center in Littleton*



## Get Connected

*Since 1973, our membership has been collaboratively advancing innovative policies and practices. Alliance is continually growing its membership and fortifying relationships to strengthen services and supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.*



@AllianceCOIDD



@Alliance\_CO



Alliance Colorado



[www.alliancecolorado.org](http://www.alliancecolorado.org)