For years, DSP's working with adults that have I/DD issues have taken care of clients that depend on us for survival. These are human beings that were mostly otherwise discarded in a system where they were not wanted or were too broken for families to provide care for. Our DSP's are involved in every single part of every day of our client's lives, from personal care, appointments, shopping, socialization, community integration, medical care, food preparation, documentation, and every single thing that our clients need from us. We do it with a smile because we know that the people we are caring for deserve the best. They have already experienced discrimination throughout their lives, and live with an oppression that I will never know as a fully functioning person without I/DD issues. These are the people among us that need help the most, and we have turned out backs on them as a state and as a country because they are different. I am telling you that our clients, the people we support, have fought their entire lives in oppression, and we owe them the best kind of care because of it. We cannot continue to provide that level of care without paying the support staff what they are worth. My staff make $13 an hour and will literally be involved in every moment of my clients lives until the day they die and are buried. They spend their entire career's making other people's lives better, working long hours, chronically short staffed, and now through a pandemic with the workload increased 100%, for almost no recognition and minimal pay. We are failing the people that are going to be there for each and every one of YOU and us when we are aging and elderly, when we are physically incapable of caring for ourselves, when dementia robs us of our minds, or when all of those terrible things happen as we age that will eventually happen to us as well. The people that are going to be caring for us are the same people that care for people like my clients, and they are the ones that should be paid to provide the best support possible. .