Housing Sector, Elected Official and Policymaker Toolkit

TOOLKIT INTRODUCTION

Thank you for linking arms with us to help increase awareness and expand housing solutions for people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). We believe that housing is a basic human right. People deserve housing options that meet their needs and preferences, and provide safety and a sense of community. You are in a unique position to help shine a light on a population that is often left out of affordable housing planning and decision-making.

This toolkit provides a number of resources that can be used to share with your networks, peers and the broader community to shine a light on the disability community, elevate the gaps in data and share possible solutions to create more affordable housing options that have emerged from the ECONorthwest study. We hope you will use these resources when planning for affordable housing development, when considering priority populations to invest in, and when selecting voices to include in idea generation and decision-making.

TOOLKIT CONTENTS:

- Advocacy Imperatives: Kuni Foundation Companion Piece
- **ECONorthwest Data Study One-Pager** findings that you can share with your network that provide a high-level overview of the study's key findings and advocacy and policy imperatives.
- <u>Talking Points</u> to use for presentations, conversations and more. These are structured to explain the issue/situation, convey why it is important and give actionable solutions.
- **<u>PowerPoint Presentation</u>** that shares key findings and recommended actions from the ECONorthwest study.
- <u>Social Content</u> to share with your online network that will share new data, highlight the need for action and invite others to join.
- ECONorthwest Data Study Press Release
- <u>E-signature</u> copy with key data findings and a link to the ECONorthwest study.





HOW DID WE GET HERE?

We spent the last year engaging with and learning from individuals with lived experience, I/DD advocates, affordable housing advocates, housing investors, agencies and developers, and caregivers in Oregon and Southwest Washington to better understand the needs, gaps, preferences and opportunities related to housing for people experiencing I/DD. Their collective voices and experiences helped us to better understand the current housing landscape, the needs and hopes of the I/DD community, and the barriers that stifle collaboration, innovation and options. We look forward to expanding our relationships and knowledge as this work continues to advance.

With concern for housing security now, and into the future, and in response to better data being the number one priority voiced by advocates, the Foundation commissioned ECONorthwest to quantify the number of people experiencing I/DD in Oregon and Southwest Washington. The full ECONorthwest study also documents current living situations (for people whose current data counts), the gap in housing supply and possible housing solutions for the I/DD community.

Thank you for all you do! Kuni Foundation



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#DYK the number of people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in Oregon and SW Washington is likely higher than what is currently thought? This is a huge problem that renders an entire community invisible! Outdated data, which is more than 25 years old, is being used to make funding allocations and policies for this community that don't accurately reflect their needs and desires. Read this study to learn more. https://bit.ly/2RQRWCY

An estimated 24,000 adults experiencing I/DD in Oregon and SW Washington are facing housing insecurity. The majority live with aging caregivers and will soon be forced to seek housing options when their loved one is no longer able to care for them. Yet there is a severe lack of affordable housing options available. <u>https://bit.ly/33UiMOg</u>

People experiencing I/DD deserve to have a choice where they live, yet there is a huge gap in affordable options that meet people's needs and preferences. A new study sheds light on the current housing landscape, the growing crisis and potential solutions. <u>https://bit.ly/2RQRWCY</u>



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66 He's really happy living with us, and we're happy having him there, but we're in our mid-60s and we're not getting any younger...**99**

> — Lois and Peter G., parents of a child experiencing I/DL



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Are you concerned about the growing housing crisis for people experiencing I/DD? Show your commitment to making the community visible and to advancing housing support and dedication to making housing affordable and reflective of the needs and preferences of the disability community! https://kunifoundation.org/the-work-we-do/advoca cv/



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People experiencing I/DD want and need more independent living options and the choice to live in a home that meets their needs and preferences, and is part of a community. Yet for many, this is not an option. Learn more here. <u>https://bit.ly/33UiMQq</u>

C In the past we were isolated. ...That was not the right approach; we need to be integrated into the community.

— Kiersi C., self-advocate

Foundation POWERING POTENTIAL

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