

## **THE 2009-2011 MOSAIC NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

### **Mosaic National Legislative Agenda Data Compilation**

In seeking to develop a comprehensive national legislative agenda for Mosaic, feedback was gathered from various internal and external stakeholders, including:

- Mosaic Strategic Planning Input Survey 2009-2010
- Mosaic Legislative Agenda Survey 2008
- Trade Association agendas in states in which Mosaic provides services
- Each Mosaic state's internal legislative strategic plan
- Mosaic Allied Voices National Committee Member feedback
- National Organizations:
  - The ARC, United Cerebral Palsy-UCP, American Network of Community Options and Resources-ANCOR, American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities-AAIDD, Association of University Centers on Disabilities-AUCD, National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities-NACDD Recommendations for the 111th Congress
- Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities-CCD, Recommendations for the 111th Congress
- Lutheran Services of America Disability Network-LSA DN, Presidential Transition Document
- Office of Management and Budget -OMB Watch

We found three tiers of priorities emerged from the data sources. The outcomes yielded two overwhelming themes: The Direct Support Professional Workforce and Adequate Funding.

### **Mosaic National Legislative Agenda's Purpose**

*“From Civil Rights protections to community housing, from special education to Social Security benefits, from job training, to basic health care, from transportation to long term supports and services, the federal government spends billions of dollars, both directly and in partnership with state government, for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These programs are funded through entitlement programs such as Medicaid and Medicare and discretionary programs such as vocational rehabilitation, HUD housing, and education. Many families and even some professionals in the field are, however, unaware of the huge impact of this federal funding since most of it flows through state and local governments.*

*State and local governments, particularly during economic crises such as what our nation is now experience, are increasingly dependent on federal dollars.*

State and local governments and the private non profit sectors cannot in any way replace the funding and other roles played by the federal government in disability policy. It is critical, then, that people with disabilities, their families, and advocates, and the disability service system protect, enhance, and modernize the federal approach to disability policy.” (Excerpt from the ARC, UCP Disability Policy Collaboration in Partnership with ANCOR, AAIDD, AUCD, NACDD Recommendations to the 111th Congress)

We recognize that it is often challenging to bridge the diverging aims, interests and cultures of our partners. It is often challenging to overcome silos of thinking to develop a common agenda. *The purpose of developing the Mosaic National Legislative Agenda is to set the framework for our national legislative strategies.*

## THE 2009-2011 MOSAIC NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA PRIORITIZED

<p><b>Tier One:</b> High Data Responses/Urgent</p>	<p><b>Living Wages &amp; Staff Training: “The Wage Bill”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher Direct Support Professional (DSP) wages</li> <li>• Research related to higher DSP wages</li> </ul> <p><b>FMAP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring the Economic Stimulus Package is maximized for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their providers</li> </ul> <p><b>Capacity Building &amp; Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues surrounding the waiting list</li> <li>• Strategies in partnering with stakeholders to ensure adequate rate methodologies are in place, developing provider networks and developing community networks</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tier Two:</b> Moderate Data Responses/Importance Recognized/Ongoing Support Needed</p>	<p><b>Developmental Disabilities Act</b></p> <p><b>Section 811 Housing</b></p> <p><b>Workforce Investment Activities</b></p> <p><b>Rehabilitation Act Reauthorization</b></p> <p><b>Support and expand accessible transportation</b></p>
<p><b>Tier Three:</b> Low Data Responses/Importance Recognized/Ongoing Support Needed</p>	<p><b>Civil Rights</b></p> <p><b>Assistive Technology Act</b></p> <p><b>Fully Fund: IDEA-Individuals with Disabilities Act, relevant components of the Higher Education Act</b></p> <p><b>Increase the Substantial Gainful Activity-SGA</b></p> <p><b>Revenue and Tax Policy</b></p>