NEW YORK
ALLIANCE FOR INCLUSION & INNOVATION

2025-26

ANNUAL REPORT













MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

On behalf of the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation, we are pleased to highlight the incredible work of our members, Board of Directors, and team of professionals in this 2025-26 Annual Report. This year was defined by a steadfast commitment to our mission and vision, our core set of values, and a resilience that allowed us to deliver results that reflect both operational excellence and strategic foresight. We also continued to weave diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging into all aspects of our association's work.

Internally, we underwent a reorganization that helped us rethink our structure and align resources with individual and association goals and objectives. It was intentional, met with enthusiasm, and we are happy to say it went smoothly and is working well. We hope you see its positive results.



At the same time, we remained laser-focused on supporting the needs of our member organizations to foster innovation and creativity and ensuring that we stayed ahead of the curve on the newest and latest trends. Our work in the Artificial Intelligence space, advancing models for replication in complex needs & dual diagnosis, and Assistive Technology are three of the high points for 2025-26. The second class of emerging leaders in our Executive Leadership Development Series completed their coursework. And the first class in the Mid-Level Leadership Development Series finished their work. A hearty congratulations goes to all the graduates!

Throughout this annual report you will see the tremendous progress we've made in the above-mentioned areas along with others. We're so pleased to share with you our advocacy efforts, grants and initiatives, financial performance and the numerous events, webinars, trainings and courses we held in this membership year. It's all highlighted by the valuable work of the NY Alliance team. Our progress to drive meaningful change is a result of their dedication.

We are so proud to demonstrate our story of growth and impact through this Annual Report. We look forward to continuing this journey with the support of our members, partners and New York's I/DD community.

Michael Seereiter
President/CEO

OUR MISSION

To be the leading resource for organizations, the individuals and families they support and serve as a catalyst for positive system change and innovation.

OUR VISION

To advance a society where individuals with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities are contributing citizens with equal rights and opportunities.

OUR CORE VALUES

Community: We foster choice and independence in diverse, inclusive communities and inspire creativity and innovation, where people thrive and succeed.

Leadership: We build strong diverse coalitions and engage key stakeholders in advocacy, shape sound public policies responsive to people's needs and support initiatives that advance positive, high-quality outcomes.

Person-Centered: We ascribe to an individualized approach that assists people in living their best life through self-determination.

Respect: We value our members and stakeholders and express that through gratitude, listening and collaboration.

Integrity: We believe words and actions should be held to the highest standards of honesty, fairness, respect, and professionalism.

Equity: We acknowledge systemic inequities and advocate for people with disabilities, their families, and the staff that support them to have access and opportunities.

NY ALLIANCE BY THE NUMBERS

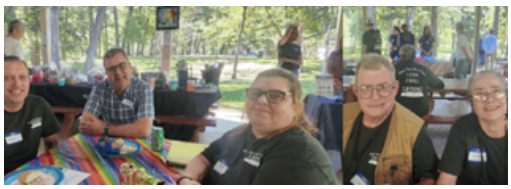
Representing a diverse cross-section of the sector itself, and across the entire State of New York, the NY Alliance believes its strength is in its membership and therefore relies on collaboration with, and collective efforts of **over 180 members**, partners and stakeholders who are dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities and the people who support them.

131	5	19	6	21
PROVIDER MEMBERS	ALLIED (CCO) MEMBERS	ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	AFFILIATE MEMBERS	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS









Members Corner

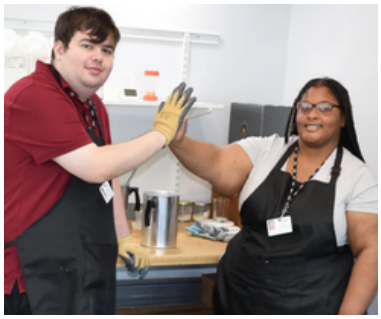
Celebrating the great work & extraordinary accomplishments of our members in our weekly newsletter, E-News!





























ROLE OF THE NOT FOR PROFIT I/DD PROVIDER

Not-for-profit organizations and the association that represents them exist for the good of the public, addressing societal needs, advocating for change and investing in their missions. The primary goal of a not-for-profit entity is to improve the quality of life for people, and communities, and the good of society.

New York's not-for-profit providers of services to people with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities play a critical role in delivering essential supports and making major economic contributions to their communities and the state as a whole.

It's why one of the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation's key priorities for 2025-26 ensured that federal and state investments in the system remained intact. Thanks to the commitment from our members, the collective disabilities community and the Team at the NY Alliance for making sure our voices were heard from the halls of the State Capitol to our representatives' offices in Washington, D.C.

Not-for-profit providers remain committed to ensuring the system of supports and services remain robust, that the strides in workforce attraction and engagement continue to advance, and we continue to be vigilant on the federal front so that home and community based services don't disappear.

On behalf of our members, the NY Alliance thanks all of our government partners and elected officials who answered our calls, took the time to meet with us in person and joined us in our advocacy.



AT A GLANCE
OUR FEDERAL & STATE ADVOCACY





The NY Alliance created a federal advocacy initiative which included several informational webinars, meetings with members and a resource webpage to keep members updated and informed while Congress was negotiating H.R. 1, which resulted in cuts to Medicaid totaling nearly $1 Trillion over the next 10 years.

NY Alliance staff and its member agencies, in collaboration with ANCOR, visited Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. and made well over 30,000 contacts to members of Congress including all 26 members of the NY delegation in the House of Representatives and U.S. Senators Schumer and Gillibrand to educate policymakers on the unintended consequences that cuts to Medicaid could have on the I/DD sector.

30,000+
LETTERS/MESSAGES SENT TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

10
IN-PERSON MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

8
INFORMATIONAL WEBINARS & MEETINGS

10
ACTION ALERTS SENT

NYS LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2.7% TARGETED INFLATIONARY INVESTMENT (TII) to address the rising costs of certain programs and services delivered by New York's human services agencies.

S.8675 and A.10449: CAREFORCE FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS ACT

S.8676 and A.10445: CARE WORKFORCE HOUSING PREFERENCE ACT

S.8672 and A.10457: EMPLOYER ASSISTED HOUSING (EHA) MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

Thank you to all of our elected officials and government leaders for taking our calls, answering our emails, making yourselves available to us and understanding why we are fighting so hard to ensure that New Yorkers with I/DD live full, inclusive lives.



Congressman Mike Lawler & NYAII's Mike Lawler

BY THE NUMBERS

535 Voting Members of the U.S. Congress

63 Members of the NYS Senate

150 Members of the NYS Assembly

1 Governor of the State of New York

182 Members of the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation

4,438 Messages Sent via the NY Alliance Government Action Center

SHARING OUR EXPERTISE





NY Alliance is proud of the series of conferences and events, webinars and trainings we host for our members.

Our signature in person events are a way to promote innovation, influence policy, and engage providers with policymakers, elected officials, experts in the field, and stakeholders. Networking with peers allows us to foster collaboration and learn of best practices.

Our webinars and trainings are an effective platform to stay up-to-date on the latest trends and developments in the field, host policy discussions and serve as an effective tool for education and learning.







1542
CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

189
HOURS OF LEARNING OFFERED

522
EXECUTIVE BRIEFING PARTICIPANTS

43
WEBINARS OFFERED

2913
WEBINAR PARTICIPANTS

473
MEMBERSHIP MEETING PARTICIPANTS

HONORING EXCELLENCE

Exceptional people are honored each year at the Annual Conference. Congratulations to the 2026 NY Alliance Excellence Award recipients:

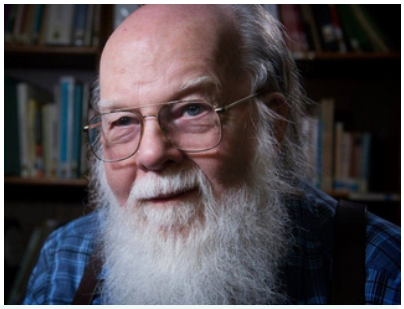
NY Alliance believes in the importance of recognizing and celebrating those individuals who strengthen our community, build connections, demonstrate what is possible, and motivate continued excellence. All on behalf of people with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities and the providers who serve them.

We were honored to celebrate these award recipients during the annual banquet and awards ceremony on April 15, 2026 at the Sagamore Resort in Bolton Landing, NY and we continue to celebrate their excellence and achievements.

Beth Mount



John O'Brien
posthumously given



COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD

Ellen Gutmaker
Arc of Onondaga

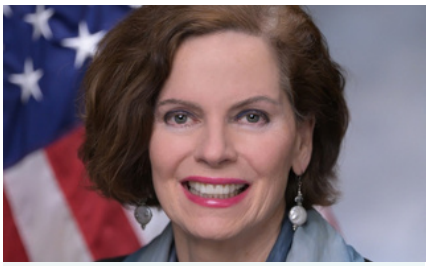


Doug DiGesare
The Arc of Erie County



LEADERSHIP AWARD

Senator Pat Fahy



DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Elise Aguilar



Noah Block



Lydia Dawson



Tom Rice



Ashley Smith



ANCOR GOVERNMENT RELATIONS TEAM

PUBLIC POLICY & SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

EMERGING LEADERS

Executive Leadership Development Series (ELDS) & Mid-Level Leadership Development Series (MLLDS)

Emerging leaders are those individuals early in their leadership journey, who demonstrate a level of innovation, motivation and inspiration. Their positive actions, critical thinking and inquisitiveness signal their potential to shape the future.

NY Alliance is proud, and honored, to host two structured development series that recognize early leadership impact and seeks to foster the knowledge and abilities of rising professionals.



JULY 2025 - MARCH 2026
EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SERIES GRADUATES



SEPTEMBER 2025 - MARCH 2026
MID-LEVEL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SERIES GRADUATES







PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Investments in leadership, technology, infrastructure and models for replication are a cornerstone of the NY Alliance. Our array of projects, initiatives and grant work are vital to the association and our members as they provide resources, ideas, conceptual frameworks and solutions that expand impact and address ever changing community need.

We continue to explore uncharted territories in artificial intelligence, enabling technology, housing, employment and workforce engagement & attraction and we're excited to share this work with you.

Regional Centers for Workforce Transformation (RCWT)

The RCWT provides free training, tools and resources to advance the practice of the NYS Code of Ethics and the Core Competencies among the state's Direct Support Professional workforce.

154
FREE TRAININGS OFFERED

3,774
TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

NY Alliance Artificial Intelligence (AI) Learning Community

The AI Learning Community provides resources, an AI readiness assessment, educational opportunities, and access to an exclusive community of providers exploring safe and innovative practices utilizing AI.

4
LEARNING MODULES

12
RECORDED TRAININGS

47
ORGANIZATIONS SUBSCRIBED

Closing the Employment Gaps

Through funding from the National Expansion of Employment Opportunities Network (NEON), NY Alliance developed webinars to share tools, resources and other information to assist providers and stakeholders in closing the employment gaps for people with I/DD in New York State.

7
CATEGORIES OF RESOURCES
and counting!

16
RECORDED TRAININGS

PROJECT PORTAL

This year, we invested in building a streamlined, interactive, central location for all of our projects and initiatives.

Visit the new website by going to projects.nyalliance.org to learn more about all of our projects and access the resources and tools available!



Free tools and resources for provider organizations to assist in attracting and engaging the DSP workforce.



Offering enhanced technical assistance for NYS provider organizations offering employment supports to individuals with I/DD.



A central location for 400+ housing & housing-related services and resources for people with I/DD.



A hub for current, practicing, certified housing navigators to access information, network and share resources.



Developing new, emerging and diverse executive leaders through courses, readings and discussions led by industry and educational experts.



A dynamic learning series designed for those who play a pivotal role in translating strategy, guiding teams and driving success.

projects.nyalliance.org



A collection of tools and resources to assist in disaster preparedness and response for providers in New York State.



2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Chair: Evelyn Alvarez-Richards, *Heartshare Human Services of New York*
First Vice Chair: Joy O'Shaughnessy, *East End Disability Associates*
Second Vice Chair: Robert Budd, *Family Residences and Essential Enterprises (FREE)*
Secretary: Candace Opalka, *Liberty ARC*
Treasurer: Ron Colavito, *ACCESS: Supports for Living*

Board Members

Nadine Daley, *The Center for Family Support*
Doug Digesare, *The Arc Erie County*
Jeffery Fox, *Abilities First NY*
Paul Joslyn, *Access CNY*
Sarah Louer, *Mountain Lake Services*
Steve Towler, *AHRC New York City*

Regional Directors

NYC: Jajaida Gonzalez, *Services for the Underserved*
Western: Mindy Cervoni, *Community Services for Every1*
Mid-Hudson: Vacant
Northern: Amy Dugliss, *Advocates Incorporated*
Capital: Elizabeth Martin, *Living Resources*
Long Island: Linda Gangi, *IGHL*

NY ALLIANCE STAFF

Kate Connally, Assistant Vice President, Administration & Content Strategy

Ann M. Hardiman, Chief Innovation Officer

Charlotte Horwath, Assistant Director of Marketing, E-Learning & Social Media

Michael Lawler, Chief Program Officer

Kirk Lewis, General Counsel

Kathleen P. Mayo, Chief Administrative Officer & Vice President of Government Affairs

Lisa A. Mount, Assistant Vice President of Business Solutions, Operations, Events & Conferencing

Carol Napierski, Senior Vice President for Innovation & Development

Katie Page, Vice President, Finance & Strategic Analytics

Monica Robinson, Vice President for Workforce Advancement

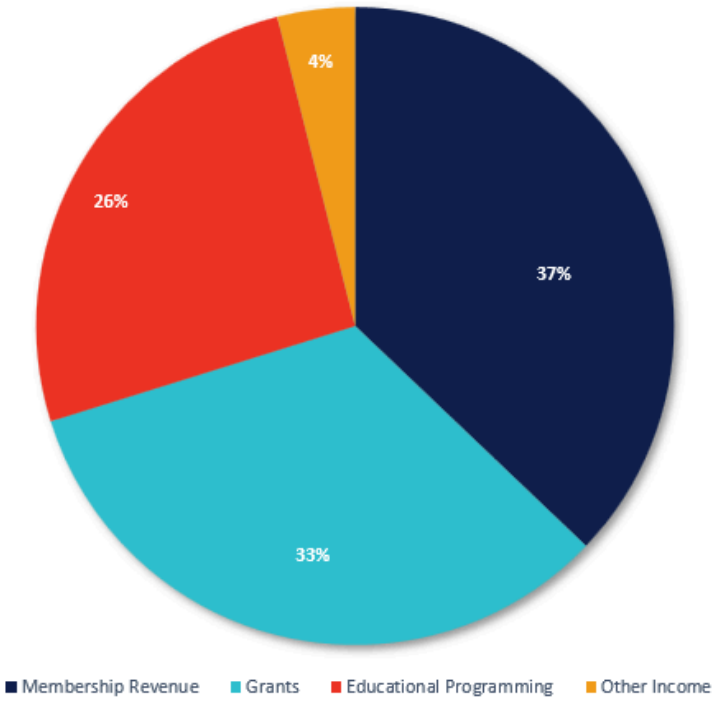
Kirsten Sanchirico, Senior Vice President of Social Impact

Michael Seereiter, President & CEO

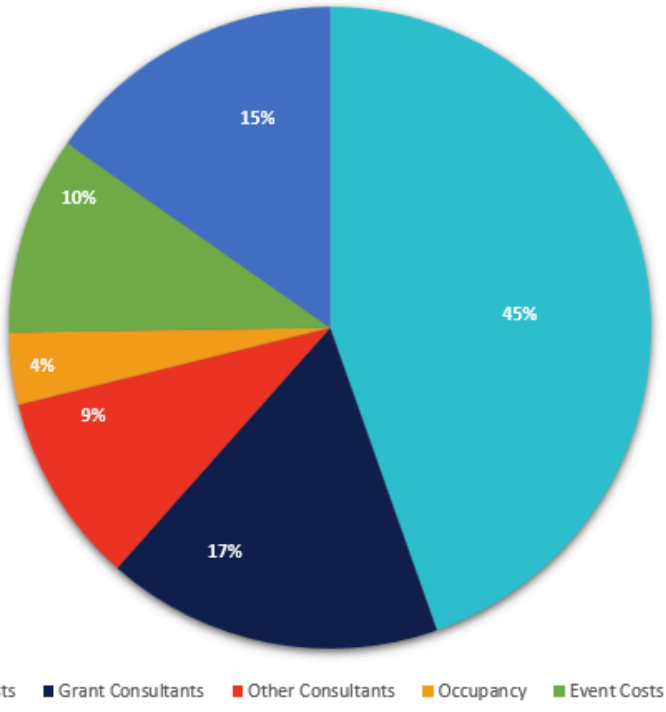


NY ALLIANCE FINANCIALS

2025-26 Revenue



2025-26 Expenses



**The 2025-26 results are unaudited as of October 1, 2026.*

NEW YORK
ALLIANCE FOR INCLUSION & INNOVATION

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Albany, NY 12203

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2025-2026











