



## 2017 PA State Budget Priorities

*The Arc of Pennsylvania and  
The Arc of Lancaster County*

### Priority: Invest in the disability community system

#### Key issues

**Cost-efficiency:** It is more cost-efficient to serve a person with disabilities in the community instead of in facilities. Medicaid is the majority funder of these services and it is important to use funding efficiently and effectively. The chart below depicts this comparison.

**Community:** People with disabilities **want** to live, work, and thrive in their communities alongside family and friends.

**Sustainability:** Pennsylvania needs both investment in the disability services system and options for individuals with disabilities who want to pursue competitive employment.

#### Recommendations

The Arc of Pennsylvania and The Arc of Lancaster County recommend passing the following budget initiatives:

- \$26.2 million in community waiver funding to create a new waiver option for 1,000 people from the emergency services waiting list and 820 high school graduates.
- \$54.7 million to provide rate increases from the renewal of the waiver program.
- \$109.7 million to provide for increases in utilization and costs.
- \$642,000 in autism intervention and services to provide waivers to 50 adults with autism.
- \$25 million in special education funding.

