

Housing mobilization campaign



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Why a campaign ?

In 2023, the Quebec Intellectual Disability Society asked the intellectual disability community about their top priority issues. **Housing was chosen as the most urgent subject.**

Context

In Quebec, everyone has the right to a safe, healthy, and stimulating living environment, including people with intellectual disabilities. These rights are protected by international laws.

Unfortunately, **many people with intellectual disabilities do not have the opportunity to choose their preferred type of housing** due to a lack of available spaces. They must continue living with their parents or in imposed living environments that do not always suit them. In some cases, the absence of suitable living environments can lead to housing instability or homelessness.

According to the Ministry of Health and Social Services, a large portion of people with intellectual disabilities **still live with their parents** (62%). The rest live generally in residential resources, such as intermediate resources (13%) and family-type resources (11%). There are also innovative housing models led by and for the community, but they are rare and difficult to develop.



The lack of resources is exacerbated by the **parallel aging** of parents and people with intellectual disabilities, creating a real housing crisis for these individuals and their families.

The problems

A largely privatized and costly model

In Quebec, the housing model established by the Ministry of Health and Social Services for people with intellectual disabilities is **mostly privatized**. This means these services are managed by **private companies** rather than the government or community organizations. This leads to high costs and a quality of services that varies from one place to another.



The problems

The quality of service varies

One significant problem with the current living environments is the **lack of oversight**. While some resources offer excellent services and quality of life, this is not the case everywhere. In fact, in recent years, more and more people have complained about mistreatment or inadequate services.

Very long waiting lists

Another problem with the current model is the **interminable waiting lists** for access to substitute living environments. People usually have to wait for years to get a place.



Lack of alternatives and the housing crisis for people with intellectual disabilities

Finally, innovative housing models are promising but **lack financial, organizational, and governmental support**.

Combined, these factors contribute to a major housing crisis for people with intellectual disabilities. We already see more and more people **in precarious housing situations or homelessness**, or parents wondering what their children will do when they are no longer there. It is time to change things.

The solutions

It is essential to implement concrete and adapted measures to meet the needs of people with intellectual disabilities and their families. To address these issues, the government must act in several ways:



Support innovative housing models



Improve the quality of services and oversight in residential resources



Develop better home services and care, including specialized services in the context of parallel aging



Propose a strategy and effective solutions to reduce poverty, housing instability, and homelessness

These actions are solutions to improve the situation, avoid a crisis, and ensure a safe, healthy, and stimulating living environment for all people with intellectual disabilities.

