

Support services role in breaking the cycle of poverty

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Breaking the cycle

How support services fight poverty



- Leading voice of disability services across Europe
- 20,000 services in over 50 countries
- Human rights and equal opportunities for people with disabilities through effective and high-quality support.



Disability in the family = more expenses, stress, little recognition, guidance and support

Lack of early intervention, inclusive education

29 Million
People with
disabilities live
in poverty in the
EU

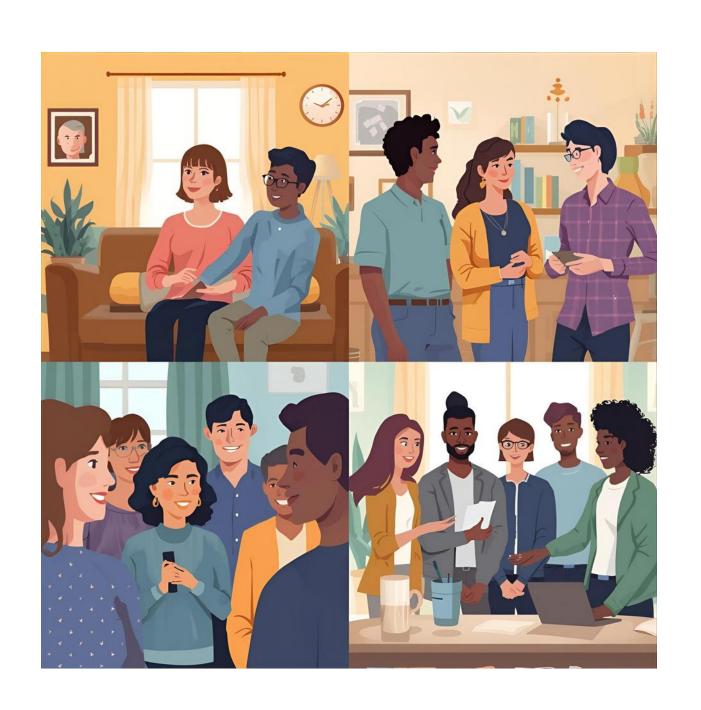
More dependency on limited public resources

Less employment opportunities for people with disabilities and their informal carers

Limited social inclusion, uneven access to quality support



Quality services can break the cycle if they are...



- Person-Centered: individual choice and control
- Community-Based: Living, learning, working in the community
- Integrated: working together across all life areas
- Well-Trained & Supported Staff:
 Training, fair wages, good conditions

Build the foundations:

housing, health, education, social protection



Resource the sector: reliable funding, infrastructure, good working conditions



Start early & support families: prevention, early intervention, respite, work-life balance

Universal access: high-quality for all

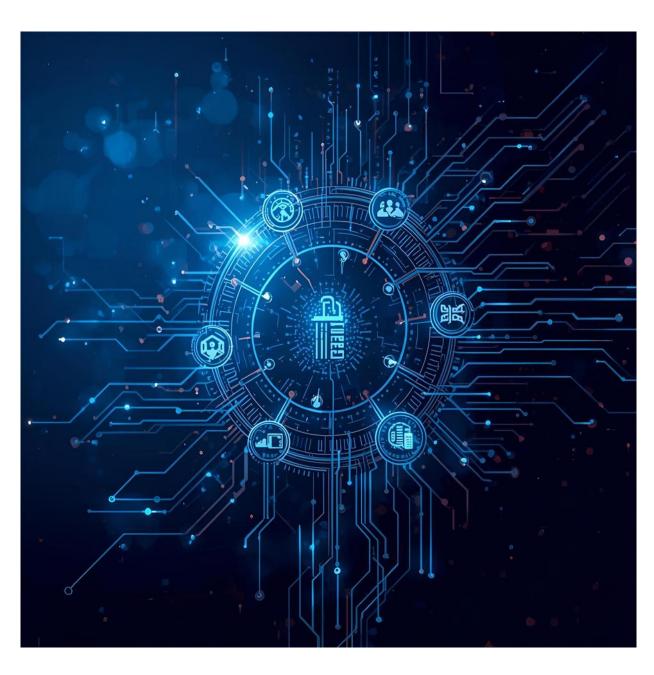
Employment done right:

smooth transitions, supported employment, career patwhays, no benefit traps





Strategically combine technology with strong social protections



What it enables:

- People living independently with dignity
- Workers freed from admin burden
- Quality care, not just efficient care

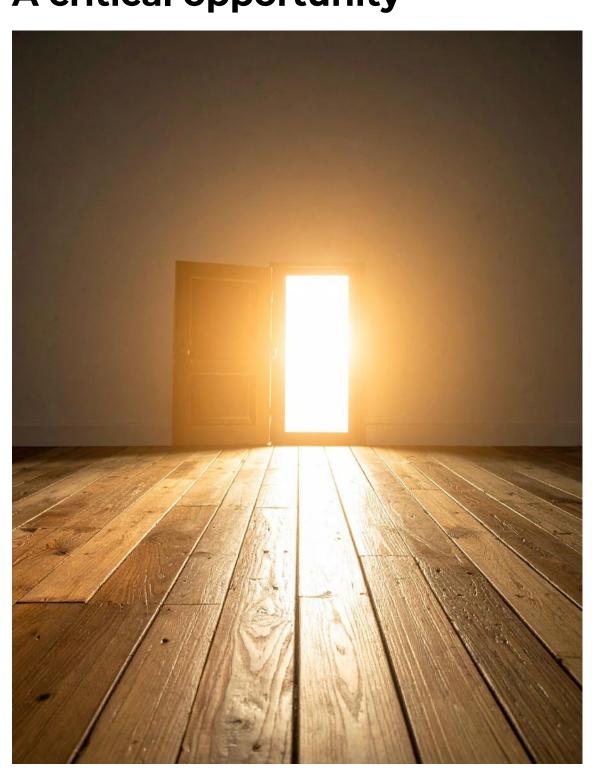
What we must avoid:

- Digital exclusion = new form of poverty
- Technology replacing people instead of supporting them



EASPD

A critical opportunity



Not just poverty reduction: Human dignity. Social inclusion. The Europe we choose to build.

Success requires partnership: Public authorities · Civil society · Social partners · People with lived experience / DPOs/families · Service providers

And synergies: EU Disability Strategy, Affordable Housing Plan, Child Guarantee, Unions of Skills, Quality Jobs Roadmap, Public Procurement, State Aid revisions, new MFF.



The time is now

Support services can break the cycle of poverty.

But only with the right conditions. Let's build them together.

