

# Fully Fund State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS)

## KNOW THE FACTS

- **SPAS serves adults with significant disabilities who for various reasons don't qualify for services from other programs or those programs are insufficient to meet their needs.**
- **Average cost per person receiving SPAS is about \$22,000 per year compared to \$50 - 55,000 in a nursing home.\*\*\***
- **Federal match (LINCCA) is used in this program.**
- **90 individuals on the waiting list.\*\***

## What Can Legislators Do?

Appropriate an additional \$600,000 in State General Funds (SGF) to the State Personal Assistance Services\* (SPAS) program for FY20 to serve all individuals on the program's waiting list.

## Why Do This?

SPAS enables adults with significant disabilities to literally get out of bed, eat, bathe, get dressed, go to work, live in their own homes, and be fully participating members of their communities.

Many individuals served by the program are employed full time and their earned income disqualifies them for a Medicaid waiver. SPAS enables them to maintain their employment and contribute to the economy.

Services are tailored to meet individual needs; 88% of current recipients receive personal care services.\*\* Relative to institutionalization SPAS is:

- More cost effective and
- Results in better quality of life outcomes.

\*SPAS is administered by the Office of Aging and Adult Services, and services are provided by the Arc of LA.

\*\*Based on Arc of LA's quarterly report submitted to the Council's Act 378 Subcommittee in October 2018

\*\*\*Based on Arc of LA's SPAS fact sheet