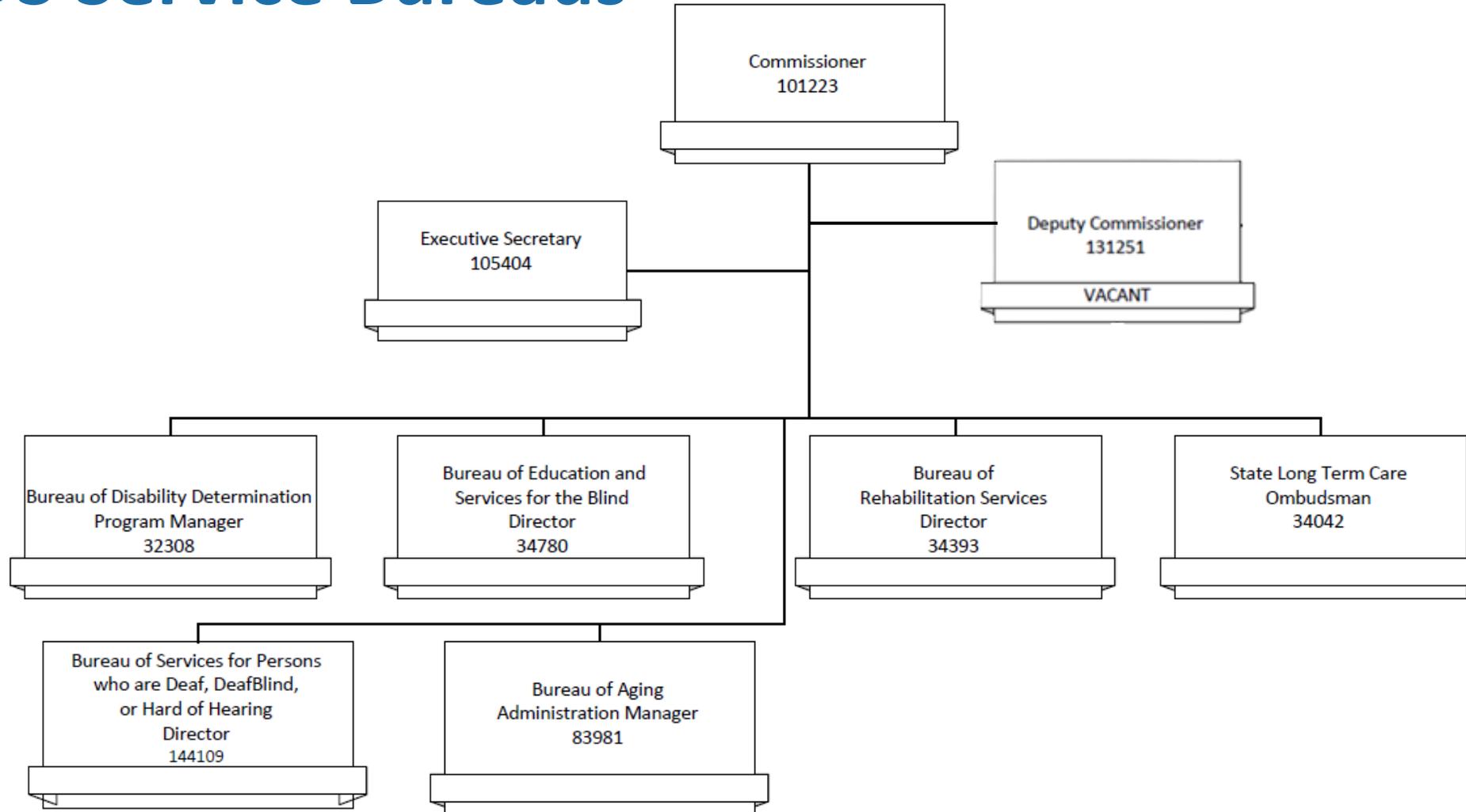




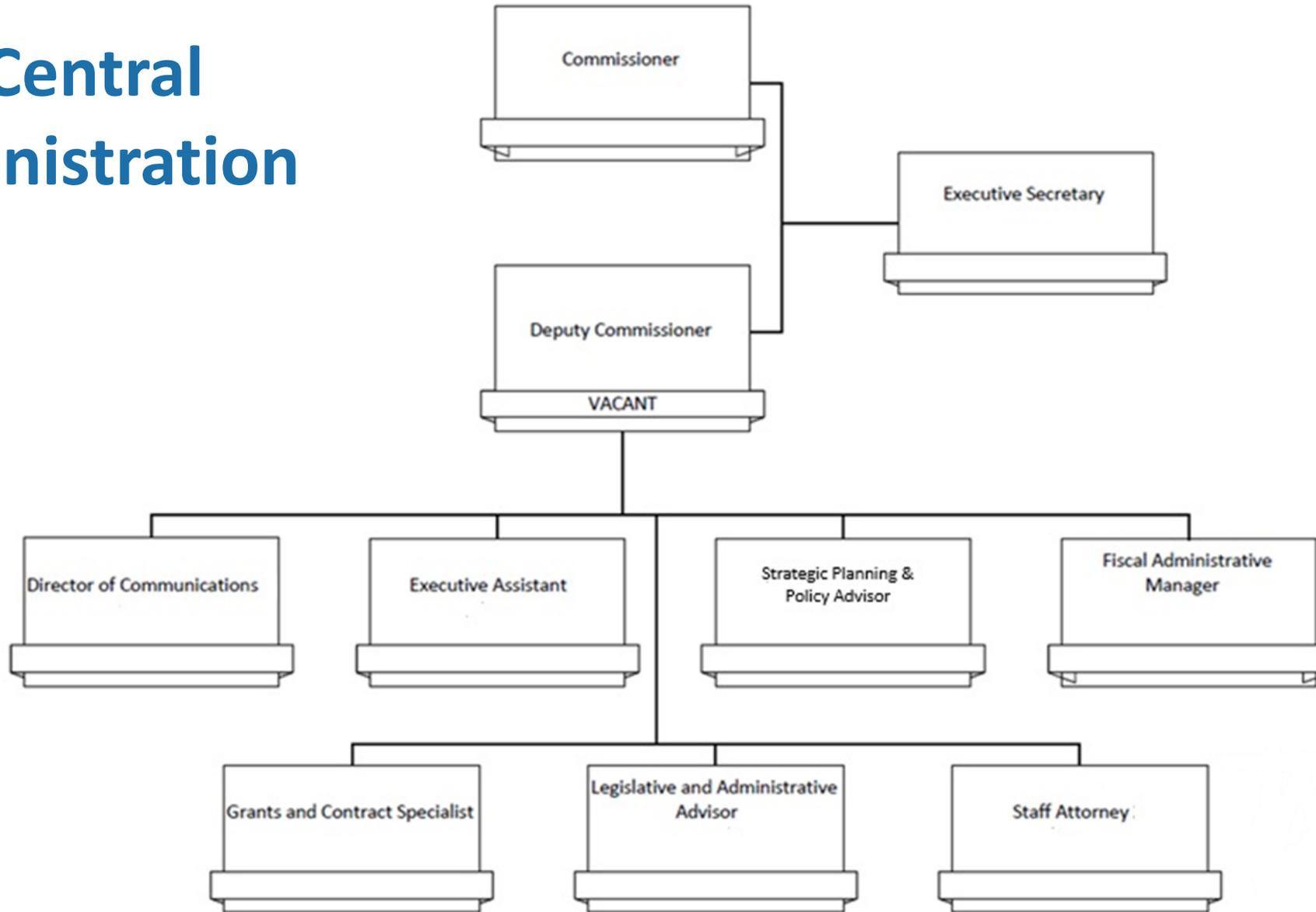
Appropriations Work Session
February 25, 2026

ADS Administrative Structure

ADS Service Bureaus



ADS Central Administration



Centers for Independent Living

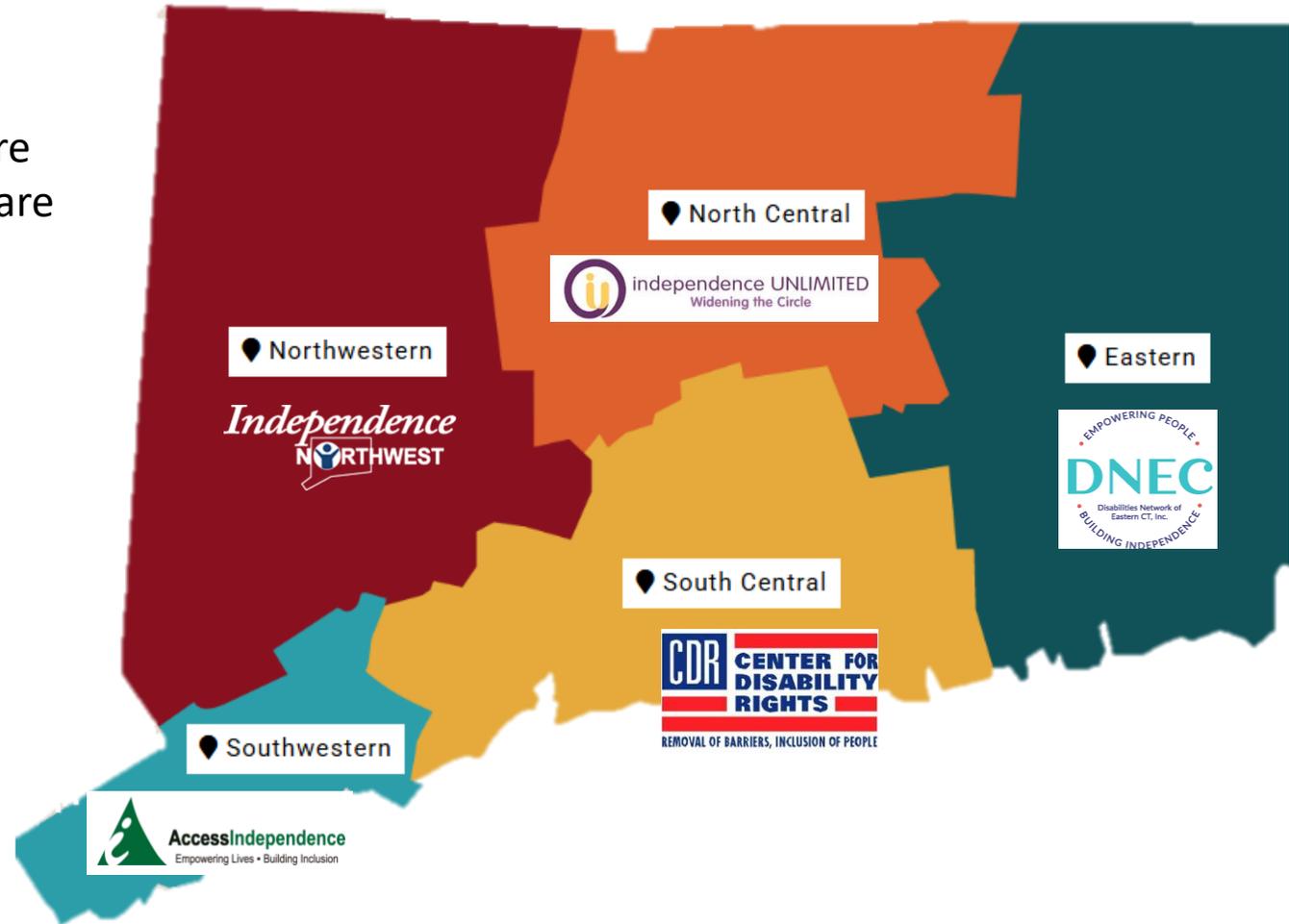
Centers for Independent Living

5 Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

These non-residential, community-based, nonprofits are governed primarily by individuals with disabilities and are designed to **promote independence, community participation, and self-determination**, prevent institutionalization and strengthen housing stability, workforce participation, and civic engagement.

In FFY 2025, the CIL network:

- served **1,810 individuals statewide**
- delivered nearly **3,000 independent living services**
- supported **1,417 individuals in improving independence outcomes across key life domains.**



Centers for Independent Living – FFY 2025 Services

- Information and Referral Services
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Peer Counseling
- Advocacy Services
- Housing and Community Living Supports
- Assistive Technology and Mobility Services
- Youth and Transition Services
- Statewide Coordination & Capacity-Building

Centers for Independent Living Budget

	SFY 26	FFY 26	SFY 27 (Anticipated)	FFY 27 (Anticipated)
Federal Funds				
HHS/ACL Independent Living, Part C (IL services)		\$1,095,000		\$1,095,000
HHS/ACL Independent Living, Part B (Operations)		\$225,000		\$225,000
HHS/ACL Independent Living, Part B (statewide data coordinator/office administrator, data positions at each CIL)		\$24,952		\$24,952
USDOE/RSA Disability Innovation Fund		\$500,000		\$500,000
State Funds				
Required IL Part B Non-Federal Match	\$38,352		\$38,352	
State Budget Funds	\$1,025,523		\$1,025,523	
Total	\$2,908,827		\$2,908,827	

Programs for Senior Citizens

Program Name	Program Description	SFY 2026
Elderly Health Promotion	Supports high-quality, evidence-based health promotion programs and the implementation of best practices for encouraging healthy aging among older adults, with funding to AAAs administering the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program.	\$ 159,265
Statewide Respite Care Program	Provides support to unpaid informal caregivers and the individuals with dementia for whom they provide care.	\$ 1,955,726
Alzheimer's Aide Program - Pass through	Provides targeted financial support to Adult Day Centers to enhance services for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD).	\$ 187,359
AAA Admin. -State	Administrative funds that support AAA functions	\$ 157,339
AAA OAA Match	Contributes toward state match required by OAA for supportive services, home-delivered meals, and evidence-based health promotion programs	\$ 305,504
Congregate Housing Support - Federal Match	HUD grant program in Eastern and Western regions that provides case management and supportive services for “frail” individuals age 62+ and those under 62 with disabilities living in rural congregate housing settings	\$ 150,767
CHOICES - STATE	Connecticut’s State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Staff and (in-kind and professional) volunteers provide Medicare counseling, advocacy, and outreach services to Medicare-eligible individuals, their families, and caregivers.	\$ 457,168
CHOICES – Center for Medicare Advocacy	Provides Medicare counseling, advocacy, legal advice and outreach services to CT residents	\$ 650,287
AAA Services Navigators	Guides residents aged 60 and older and residents 18 to 59 with disabilities through long-term services and support systems, helping them overcome challenges in accessing supportive services through application assistance, benefits counseling, case consultation and options counseling	\$ 1,012,750*
	* <i>\$500,000 increase from SFY25</i>	SUBTOTAL \$ 5,036,165

Fall Prevention

Fall Prevention Funding Detail

- FYs 24-25 - Reduced spending due to loss of legacy provider (Yale)
- No funding increase in FYs 26 & 27
 - Governor's FY26-27 Budget proposed decrease; funding restored in final budget
- RFP issued FY26
- Contracts totaling \$250k:
 - MOA with DPH for the Fall Prevention Coalition
 - Connecticut Community Care for ***Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance***
 - Farmington Valley Health District for falls prevention
 - ***Monitor My Health*** for falls prevention innovations
 - Balance supports the coalition, trainings for municipalities and professionals, and support to entities instituting programs like ***Steps to Safety***

Communication Advocacy Network (CAN)

CAN Funding Detail

- FY25 spent \$99,984 of \$100K appropriated
- Based on YTD expenses as of 1/31/26, we are projecting EOY expenses to be \$141,000, leaving ~\$59,000 unexpended for FY 26
- Governor's Proposed FY27 Budget reduces \$200K appropriation to \$180K

Personnel	
Director	\$ 100,000
Asst Director/Scheduler	\$ 44,842
Payroll/Bookkeeper/Clerk	\$ 23,629
Subtotal	\$ 168,471
Non-Personnel	
Computer Tech services	\$ 6,512
ASL Interpreting	\$ 5,789
Rent	\$ 9,648
Workers Comp-Liability Insurance	\$ 2,340
Staff training	\$ 4,020
Marketing - Staff recruiting	\$ 3,220
Subtotal	\$ 31,529
Grand Total	\$ 200,000

SPARK-CT:
**Strengthening Professional
Advancement in Rehabilitation
Knowledge via Certified Training**

SPARK-CT

What is it?

SPARK-CT is a pilot career pathway training program for direct employment support professionals (DESPs), with an overarching goal of improving competitive employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities

Why is it necessary?

- Nationwide shortage of DESPs directly impacts ADS
 - Within the last 12 months, all Community Rehabilitation Providers we contract with for direct client services have instituted waitlists or stopped accepting service referrals due to lack of staff.
 - Current trend shows 33% reduction in clients served and 42% reduction in purchased services provided from 1 year ago.
 - Repeated follow-up on service referrals, unnecessary case management actions, and handling consumer/stakeholder complaints has been cited by Vocational Rehab (VR) Counselors during exit interviews as reasons for leaving the agency.

SPARK-CT – Potential Next Steps to Implementation

- Leveraging federal model demonstration grant funds awarded by USDOE and USDOL, ADS-BRS is currently developing foundational training curriculum that aligns with requirements for obtaining a nationally recognized Association for People Supporting Employment First (APSE) DESP credential.
- We were recently selected to participate in the George Washington University Center for Innovative Training in Vocational Rehabilitation: Provider Advancement Through High-Quality Training (**CIT-VR: PATH**) pilot cohort
 - Funded by the USDOE, Rehabilitation Services Administration
 - Along with 5 partnering Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRP), we will receive technical assistance related to the development of training strategies to address DESP capacity and sufficiency shortfalls.

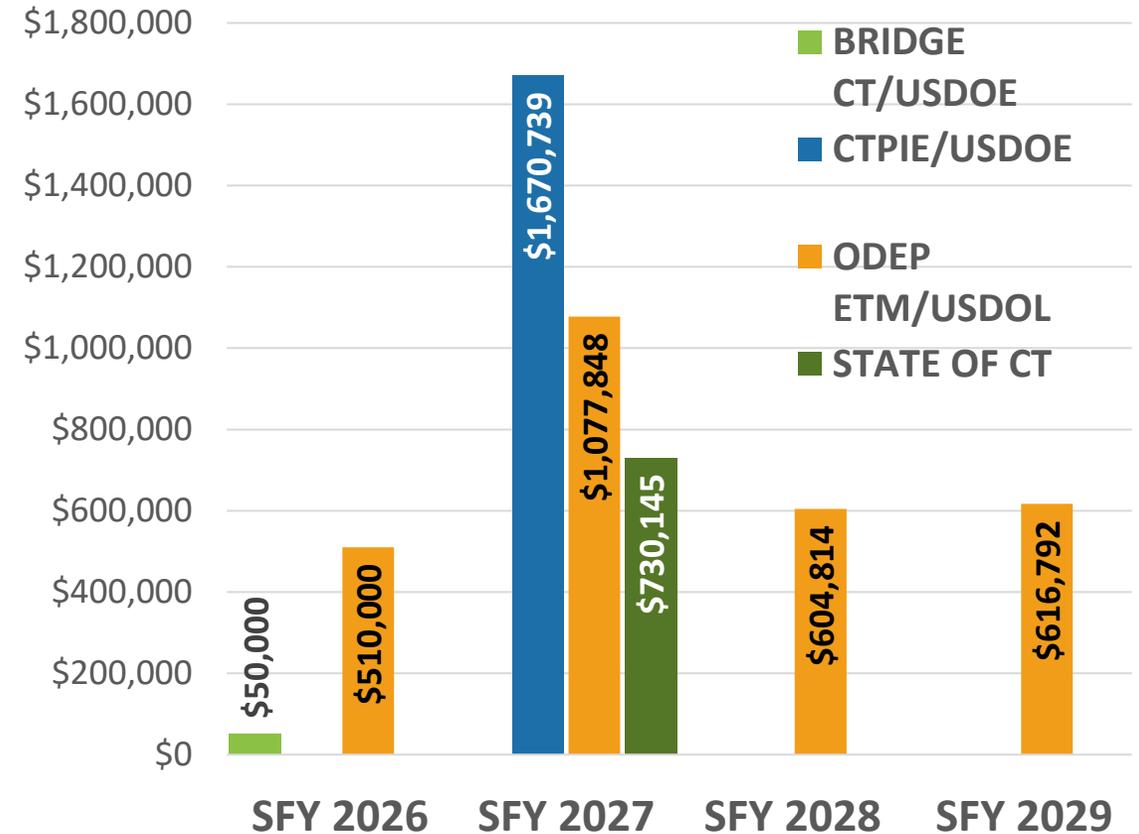
SPARK-CT – Potential Next Steps to Implementation

- We would use state and federal funding to contract with these 5 CRPs included in the CIT-VR PATH federal grant project.
 - Each CRP will act as a host site for SPARK-CT career pathway training.
 - Per the requirements of Federal underlying grants, funding has been and will continue to be used to support the general curriculum development. Training and internship subsidies may only be federally funded specific to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and youth with disabilities.
 - State funding will be used to avail training and internship opportunities in cross-disability services.
- Plan to train and mentor up to **60 participants**. Once certified, these DESPs will have the potential to provide a combined total of **over 50,000 direct service hours** each year.

SPARK-CT Proposed Funding Breakdown

Funding Source	Budget Item	Amount
Federal (FFY 2026-28)	Recruitment Campaign	\$ 199,929
	Curriculum Development/Implementation	\$ 1,000,000
	Partially subsidized Internships/Mentorship (IDD only)	\$ 983,861
	Program Oversight and Project Implementation	\$ 1,663,634
	Onsite Training Support (IDD only)	\$586,949
	Accessible Distance Learning Platform	\$ 35,820
	Windmills Training	\$60,000
	Total Federal Leveraged	\$ 4,530,193
Proposed State Budget SFY27	Cross-Disability services internship and training supports	\$ 518,343
	Disability Specific and Specialized Training	\$211,802
	Total State Funding Proposed for FY 2027*	\$ 730,145
	Total	\$ 5,260,338

TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING BY SFY



Legislatively Directed Funds

Legislatively Directed Funds Detail

Line Items	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 27 Adj.
Mount St. Olive Senior Center	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ -
Meriden Senior Center	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$400,000
Kuhn Employment Opportunities*	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$60,000
Middletown Senior Center	\$ -	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000	\$88,000
Orange Senior Center	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$20,000
Woodbridge Senior Center	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$20,000
Stamford Senior Center	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$80,000
Other Expenses Total	\$ 100,000	\$ 895,000	\$ 835,000	\$668,000
 				
Middletown Senior Center - Meals on Wheels & Congregate Meals for Middletown and Cromwell	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$120,000
Elderly Nutrition Total	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$120,000
 				
Communication Advocacy Network (CAN)	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$180,000
CAN Total	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$180,000

*The \$760,000 removed from OE reflects the original FY27 appropriations for the 5 senior centers and did not include Kuhn. However, the \$593,000 transferred into Programs for Seniors reflects the 20% reductions of the five centers plus the 20% reduction (\$15,000) for Kuhn. To rectify, Programs for Seniors should be increased by \$15,000 and OE correspondingly reduced by \$15,000.



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