

In 2021, Siblings Canada carried out an online survey to build our understanding of the realities and needs of adult siblings when it comes to supporting the financial and overall well-being of their siblings with disabilities. In all, we heard from more than 350 siblings from across Canada.

“It is hard to think about my parents passing away some day and being the only family member my brother will have that will be responsible for him.”

“It’s a challenge to find viable solutions that will allow my sibling to continue living a good life but that are also financially feasible.”

“I just want what is best for him. And for me.”



20%

of respondents currently live with their siblings with disabilities while 41% anticipate living with them in the future



69%

have had conversations with their families about the future, but the majority recognize there is much more to discuss



89%

play supporting roles in the lives of their siblings with disabilities



85%

feel that it is important for them to connect with other siblings



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Respondents face some common barriers when it comes to planning for the future:

- Emotions (especially fear)
- Family dynamics (e.g., parents have passed away, differing views)
- Parents (e.g., not ready, avoiding the conversations)
- The unknown (e.g., living situations, finances, limited information from parents)

Respondents express the greatest desire for resources on:

- Advocating for their siblings
- Supporting the mental health of their siblings
- Helping ensure the financial security of their siblings