



Alliance for the Betterment of
Citizens with Disabilities

Empowering People: Providers Shaping Policies

DEFENDING THE ACHIEVEMENT

Beginning in calendar year 2027, the potential erosion of Medicaid and SNAP funding because of federal legislation, “OBBA,” risks the relatively recent and hard-won achievements made by individuals with I/DD.

The goal of ABCD’s campaign, *Defending the Achievement*, is to maintain government investment in home and community-based services, health care, and safety net services, for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

In our video series we meet people in their homes, programs, community, and work.

Building a Life

Winnie and Edward institutionalized and “forgotten,” living without privacy, with little choice and no control, isolated from diverse groups and everyday life, for over the last 20 and 40 years respectively have taken the opportunity to make a life in the community. Justin, Paul and their parents share the essentialness of home, community, friends, and family. Gabby, Robert, India, Sara, Sequnda, and Diana tell of the profound value of work. Ending at the beginning with an image of Edward, at his security post, an embodiment of dignity and pride.

Together they provide accounts of the human struggle for dignity, capacity for resilience, and ability to overcome preconceived opinions.

Stories like these exist only because of the vision, commitment, support and partnership of federal and state government which began with the DD Act and Education for all Handicapped Children Act in 1975, the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act of 1980, The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Olmstead Decision of 1999 and increased Medicaid funding for home and community-based services (HCBS). Despite these achievements, Medicaid and other resources remain forever in governments’ crosshairs. For people with IDD, Medicaid is not simply a health care program, but the system that enables them to live in the community.

DEFEND OUR SOCIETY’S ACHIEVEMENTS

No cuts to IDD service and support.

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