



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 and delays.

Sisters

In this video, Patricia and Maddi share what decades of life in an institution were like for Patricia. Concurrently, Maddi's professional life began by following her elder sister into the institution where she had a firsthand look at "intolerance." After Patricia was transferred to an institution farther away, Maddi turned to the community and refused numerous promotions that would take her away from working directly with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. On her off-hours, she remained undaunted and uncompromising in her effort to discharge her sister from Johnstone to a full life which included employment in the community. This story is a heartwarming tribute to sisterhood.

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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