



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.

Family

In this video Linda, Mahmoud, Sue, Erika, Martha and Rachel show that maintaining communication, fine and gross motor skills are vital for independence and functionality in daily living.

Specifically, access to physical, occupational and speech/language therapies that home and community-based services enables individuals to maintain daily life skills such as walking, operating and transferring in and out of a wheelchair, using adaptive equipment, operating technology, communicating, language development, preparing food, eating independently, dressing and undressing, and doing self-care activities. Regrettable, because the reimbursement rates for habilitative therapies are so low these services which would constitute a basic service for individuals who have multiple physical and neurological issues are unavailable for too many. Habilitative therapy services in home and community-based services, must not only remain but be adequately resourced.

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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