



**Alliance for the Betterment of
Citizens with Disabilities**

Empowering People: Providers Shaping Policies

**ABCD Response to the National Council on Severe Autism – NJ Chapter June 2026 White Paper,
Cameras in Group Homes for People with Disabilities.¹**

In the section entitled, “Cameras Deter Abuse in New Jersey Group Homes,” the four references were either weak or irrelevant.

1. The paper states, “...camera systems consistently reduce crime – with especially strong effects in residential settings.” The referenced report, *CCTV Surveillance for Crime Intervention: A 40-Year Systemic Review with Meta Analysis*.² is a review of the research on public surveillance which includes car parks, town centers, public housing and public transport. The report found that the use of CCTV in residential areas is associated with significant reduction in crime. The research also demonstrated that CCTV may work best when deployed with other interventions like signage, improved lighting, security guards, fencing, etc. CCTV influenced vehicle and property crimes but not violent crimes.

It appears that the study focuses on the use of CCTV outside and not inside residential areas.³

2. The section goes on to state, “Studies in New Jersey documented a 50 percent drop in all crime types following camera installation.” This is from a paper published by ADT entitled, *Do Surveillance Cameras Deter Crime?*⁴ and pertains to the crimes of breaking in and robbery.
3. The section then states, “The AARP has stated cameras help deter abuse and identify care improvement opportunities.”⁵ The article asserts that Granny cams have become more common and while they can provide an added layer of protection, they raise legal and ethical issues surrounding residents’ safety and privacy. Please note that this article is not a research paper.
4. Finally, “Homes should assume there is a camera in the room,” is a quote from former NY AG and Governor, Andrew Cuomo.

We were unable to find proof of the aforementioned assertion made in the white paper and remain opposed to S1172/A2705 which require certain group homes to install electronic monitoring devices.

June 18, 2026

¹ [NCSA NJ Cameras White Paper BC17.pdf](#)

² [CCTV Surveillance for Crime Prevention: A 40-Year Systematic Review with Meta-Analysis | Office of Justice Programs](#)

³ A majority of ABCD providers use CCTV for external monitoring of their homes, programs and parking lots.

⁴ [Do Surveillance Cameras Deter Crime?](#)

⁵ [The Rise of 'Granny Cams' in Long-Term Care Facilities](#)