



BARC Developmental Services

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March 15th, 2019

Dear Family and Friends of BARC,

Our agency was formed by parents of children with intellectual disabilities in 1951 to advocate for services for their children. Nearly 70 years later, our mission remains unchanged: "to serve and advocate for people with intellectual disabilities and autism". Our success in this regard is due to your unwavering support.

As you may recall, two years ago the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) established the Community Participation Supports (CPS) initiative. The original mandate from ODP for this initiative was to have your family member who attends our programs become more involved in their local communities by spending time during the day in community inclusive activities rather than attending our program. The mandate originally required they spend 75% of their time in community activities and only 25% of their time in the day program. You voiced your concerns, and your advocacy made a difference...that mandate was rolled back substantially.

We recently learned ODP is now proposing a major funding cut for day programs, which will significantly reduce the rates we receive for the services we provide. The impact of these proposed funding cuts will be devastating to our programs and the services we provide. Once again we are asking for your help. Please email or write to the Office of Developmental Programs and let them know the proposed funding changes are unacceptable and will have a negative impact on the services and supports your loved one receives. Time is of the essence... you need to voice your concerns no later than April 5th, 2019!

You can email your concerns to: ra-ratesetting@pa.gov. Please write "FY19-20 rate changes" on the subject line of your email. The mailing address to send your written comments is:
Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Programs, Division of Provider Assistance & Rate Setting, 4th Floor, Health & Welfare Building, 625 Forster Street, Harrisburg Pennsylvania 17120

You made a difference two years ago, and you can make a difference now. We need your help! Thank you for your support. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns at 215-794-0800, extension 312, or by email to: scottk@barcprograms.net.

Very truly yours,

G. Scott Kulp
Director of Vocational Services & Development

"To serve and advocate for people with intellectual disabilities and autism since 1951"