



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.

Voices. Parts 1 and 2.

Amy, Brad, Cheryl, Chester, Cynthia, Faith, Fish, George, James, Joshua, Karen, Paul and Tammy, the Matheny Self Advocates, invite us to witness the process of creating an upcoming program for their bi-monthly podcast series, *See it Through Our Eyes*, which will focus on communication. We learn about not only different ways in which to communicate and the importance of self-expression, but of the relationship between confidence and being heard. Like the other achievements focused on in this campaign, we discover from the staff that the confidence and fearlessness exhibited by the self-advocates is contagious.

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.

November 2025