



Rhode Island's Statewide Self-Advocacy Organization

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June 18th, 2009

Dear Member of the General Assembly,

Advocates in Action is Rhode Island's statewide Self-Advocacy organization. We are directed by, and also represent, people who receive services funded by the RI Division of Developmental Disabilities, MHRH.

We are sending you this DVD entitled "A Message from Advocates in Action" for several reasons.

First, we want to say thank you for your support. We are people who have developmental disabilities and our lives would not be as good as they are without the excellent services that the state of Rhode Island pays for.

Also, we wanted to share our concerns. We understand that times are difficult for everyone right now. There are some hard budget decisions to be made. Our services mean a lot to us. They help us to be active, contributing members of society.

The enclosed DVD voices our concerns about many issues around the budget. It's only 5 1/2 minutes long. We hope you will find the time to watch it as you struggle to make the important decisions about our State's Budget and the future of services for those of us who have a developmental disability.

Thank you, again, for your time and support. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Sarah Lamirande
Board President