



Speaking out for people with intellectual & developmental disabilities

Speaking out for people with intellectual & developmental disabilities



[www.vor.net](http://www.vor.net)



/VOR



@VOR\_NET



VOR4Choice



[info@vor.net](mailto:info@vor.net)

Is choice and quality worth \$40? We think so. Please Join VOR Today!

About VOR

October 28, 2014

Please Forward to a Friend

# Take action now to protect choice for Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"One Click" Advocacy: Taking Action is Easy.

[FAMILIES click here.](#)  
[FRIENDS \(non-families\) click here](#)

**SHARE THIS ALERT WIDELY WITH OHIO CITIZENS.**

Dear Ohio Families and Friends,

On July 1, 2014, Disability Rights Ohio (DRO), a federally-funded legal aid agency, sent a letter to Ohio Governor John Kasich and the Directors of the Departments of Developmental Disabilities, Medicaid, and Health Transformation, urging that the State significantly reduce the number of Medicaid Intermediate Care Facility (ICFs), workshop employment, and day service options in Ohio, or face a federal lawsuit.

In its letter, DRO claims to speak on behalf of "the thousands of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Ohio...in private intermediate care facilities," and urges that these individuals be given the opportunity to live and work in smaller community-based settings it claims are more integrated.

As family members, guardians, and friends of individuals who receive specialized residential care in an ICF. employment or day services. you know

better. DRO does not speak for the thousands of Ohio citizens who are happy and well-cared for in ICF homes, nor do they speak for the individuals benefiting from employment choice. In fact, DRO's demands diametrically oppose the wishes and best interests of these individuals, and work contrary to their rights under federal Medicaid and the Olmstead decision.

Unless families, guardians and friends speak up, DRO's ill-informed, harmful message may prevail.

**Speaking up and taking action is easy.**

You can help by contacting your Ohio elected officials and agency officials now. Two ready-to-send template letters have been created - one for [families](#) of individuals with I/DD and one from [friends](#) (non-family members).

**Just click on the one that applies to be taken to a ready-to-send template letter.**

[\*\*FAMILIES click here.\*\*](#)

[\*\*FRIENDS \(non-families\) click here\*\*](#)

Your letter will be automatically directed to your State legislators, Federal Members of Congress, Governor John Kasich, and other State officials - in just one click!

**Then, SHARE.** Send to your Ohio contacts on **email, Twitter, and Facebook!**

**PLEASE, [families](#) and [friends](#), take action right now. If not us, who?**

**Sincerely,  
Tamie Hopp  
VOR Director of Government Relations &  
Advocacy**

VOR  
836 S. Arlington Heights Rd., #351  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Tel: (605) 399-1624  
Toll Free: (877) 399-4867  
Fax: (605) 399-1631  
Email: [info@vor.net](mailto:info@vor.net)

JOIN VOR. DONATE TO VOR. MAKE A DIFFERENCE

---