

Dear Families and Friends,

We would like to thank you for your continued support of our loved ones with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). Many of our families ask how they might further advocate for the care and services that their loved ones with I/DD require. We would suggest that you consider joining **VOR**.

VOR is a national non-profit organization that advocates for high quality care and human rights for individuals with I/DD. VOR brings people from different states together to understand their common concerns and share their experiences and strategies. Just as we advocate for our family members with our state officials, VOR advocates nationally with the elected officials and federal agencies that determine our national disability policy.

- **VOR advocates for the full continuum of care**, whether it be state or privately operated Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF's), group homes, one's own home, or intentional communities. **All options must be available to serve the diverse medical, psychological, and behavioral needs of this diverse population of individuals.**
- **VOR supports the full range of employment options** for individuals with I/DD, including training and placement programs for full competitive employment, supported employment programs, sheltered workshops, and disability farm programs.
- **VOR supports laws that protect guardianship** and recognizes the important role family members serve in the lives of individuals with I/DD.
- **VOR is a resource.** With your membership, you will receive their weekly email newsletter, quarterly issues of the VOR VOICE, and notifications of their Action Alerts for state and national advocacy campaigns.
- **VOR educates legislators and officials about issues concerning the care of persons with I/DD.** VOR informs decisionmakers of the true meaning of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the U.S. Supreme Court Olmstead decision. Both recognize the need for a range of services and supports to safely and appropriately meet the needs of individuals with I/DD.

Every year, VOR holds its Annual Conference and Legislative Initiative in Washington, D.C. Members from across the country convene to exchange ideas and share personal and in-state strategies, then meet with their **senators, representatives, and staff aides** to share their concerns and press for legislation protecting the rights individuals with I/DD. Senior members of VOR also meet with officials in the **Department of Justice, Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Medicaid Services, the Administration for Community Living,** and other federal agencies.

VOR has been at the forefront of our families' battles for the full continuum of care since 1983. In 1999, VOR's Amicus Brief was quoted in the U.S. Supreme Court's Olmstead Decision recognizing that for some disabled individuals, an institutional setting is the most integrated setting suitable to their needs.

**Our family members with severe intellectual and physical disabilities have no voice of their own.
Help to give them a voice.**

We urge all of our members to join VOR today. Please fill out the form below, or go online to <http://www.vor.net/get-involved>.

Individual membership in VOR is \$45 per year.

**Please make checks payable to VOR, and send this form to:
VOR, 836 S. Arlington Heights Rd. #351, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel. _____ Email _____

**VOR also accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover
(We do not take American Express)**

To pay by credit card, please fill out the information below:

Name on card _____

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ / _____ CVC (3-digit security code) _____

Signature _____

I would like to make an additional donation in the amount of \$ _____

If you would like additional information on VOR, visit www.vor.net, email to info@vor.net, or call toll free to 1-877-399-4VOR