

Strategies for PAS Advocacy

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Advocacy

- Waiting lists
- Service reductions
- Budget cuts
- Program improvements/enhancements

Individual Advocacy

- Appeal rights
- Referrals for legal assistance - P & A
- CAP
- Sharing personal stories - media and events

Olmstead Complaints

- Integration mandate: community is a civil right
- Equal access: services offered in institutions must also be offered in the community
- Choice of providers: consumers must have meaningful choice available
- Waiting lists: cannot be un-ending

Olmstead Complaints

Olmstead Complaint Form

My name is _____ . My date of birth
is ____/____/____.

I qualify for Home and Community Based Services
under the Physical Disability Waiver program with the
state of Kansas.

According to the Uniform Assessment Instrument
completed on ____/____/20____, my level of
care threshold score is _____.

Olmstead Complaints

I am at imminent risk of moving into a nursing home or other institution because:

Olmstead Complaints

- I do not have friends, family or neighbors who are available to help me.
- I cannot get prescription medications I need.
- A health care provider, family member or friend has told me I need to move into a nursing home.
- I cannot get the health care I need where I live.
- I am too old to live by myself.
- I do not have a way to get to and from appointments and errands.

Olmstead Complaints

- ❑ I have been waiting to get help in my home to meet my basic needs (ADLs).
- ❑ I need to move to a place that is accessible and/or affordable.
- ❑ I cannot get medical equipment that I need to stay in my home.
- ❑ I do not have anyone who can stay with me overnights to help me.
- ❑ I cannot get the amount of help I need to stay in my home because of limits on services.

Policy Work

- MDS – Section Q
- Consumer Advisory Panels
- Money Follows the Person Steering Committee
- HCBS Steering Committees
- Policy Development

Tent City 2003



Grassroots Advocacy & Community Organizing

- Consumer Attendant Action Network (CAAN)
- Formed because there was no union
- No one else was focusing on workforce issues
- Drafted legislation – SB 566
 - Formally recognize and codify important nature of work

CAAN, cont.

- Study to
 - develop formal procedure for pay rate increases
 - Mileage and travel time reimbursement
 - Mechanism for participating in state employee health insurance program

CAAN, cont

- SB 566 was heard in Committee on Public Health and Welfare
- Passed Senate unanimously
- Died in House Committee
- State Agency agreed to carry out principle parts of bill anyway

CAAN, cont.

- Developed formal agreement for working with the Service Employees Union International
- SEIU came to town after CAAN was developed
- Shared mutual goals
- Agreement ultimately fell apart

Disabled, Elderly & Worker (DEW) Coalition

- Formed to combat program cuts due to state budget shortfalls
- Statewide Tour
 - Townhall meetings and listening sessions
 - Rented an over-the-road bus
 - Van caravans
- 9 Cities in 4 days!
- Rallies at Statehouse
- A lot of media and people pressure

DEW, cont.

- Had fun
- Effective in restoring cuts