

DDAWNY FAMILY RALLY DETAILS

On October 1st, providers of services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities were hit with **additional** cuts to their budget from New York State. Advocacy groups throughout the state have been working very hard to raise awareness and attention to the state's plan to AGAIN cut funding for OPWDD supports and services. **These cuts will significantly impact their ability to provide the services our loved ones deserve and need to live safely.**

Advocacy groups have staged mobile rallies in their regions, at specific locations to generate media coverage for this issue. Hundreds of supporters share a simple message with Governor Cuomo and their elected officials. **We are asking for your participation in the following advocacy event which will occur throughout October..**

THE MESSAGE:

Governor Cuomo: Honor Your Promise!

Fully Fund Services for the Disabled!

Save Our Services!

WillowBrookNEVERAgain!

We recognize that an initiative scheduled for a specific day may be a challenge for families trying to manage home-work-childcare responsibilities in these challenging times. So, rather than limit participation of WNY and Finger Lakes advocates, we would like to **ask for your help** in creating a **virtual rally throughout October**. This expanded timeframe gives us the opportunity to continue the discussion and raise awareness throughout the entire month.

How Can I Participate In The Virtual Rally?

1. **Make a colorful sign with you and/or your loved one.** If you can, drive to a **location*** with the message(s) written on your car window (chalk paint)!!!
2. **Take a photo(s)**
3. **Send the photo(s)** to DDAWNYFamilyCommittee@gmail.com

Note: Emailing us your photo implies we have the permission of everyone in the photo to use it on social media

*Examples of location could be (but not limited to):

- Local Colleges, Hospitals
- Chain Stores/Restaurants
- Area points of interest and landmarks (*You know the ones! The places you take your out of town guests when they visit!!!*)
- Local Businesses willing to show their support for a little free publicity
- HQ location signage for nonprofit agencies, corporations & media locations
- Elected officials regional offices, OPWDD Regional offices, wherever