

356 Las Olas Drive  
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951  
(321) 724-8899



**Parents Planning Programs (PPP)**  
*for the Developmentally Disabled*  
*of Florida, Inc.*  
*a 501c(3) non profit corporation*

fax (321) 724-8899  
pppflorida@cfl.rr.com  
<http://www.pppflorida.org>

Roosevelt Freeman, Regional Manager  
Office for Civil Rights, Region 4  
Atlanta Federal Center, Suite 3B70  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8909

October 28, 2009

Transaction Number: 99282

Dear Mr. Freeman,

This follows my letter of October 13, 2009 regarding the actions of the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) and their biased and lobbying actions regarding legislation for people with developmental disabilities.

We have a similar complaint with the Florida Advocacy Center because we feel our interests are being violated by the very organizations which should be advocating for and protecting the Civil Rights of our family members.

Unfortunately, in the several years which we have been serving on the Florida Family Care Council Area 7, and working with other families and individuals with developmental disabilities, we have not seen a change of perspective or policy from the Advocacy Center.

Specifically, we are objecting to the comments made to the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS), Medicaid Program: Home and Community Based (HCBS) Waivers, CMS-2296-ANPRM.

The Advocacy Center has taken a rigid position on their policy of de facto segregation, holding that people with developmental disabilities should live apart from their peers and friends, with distancing, density and quota restrictions, specifically the 10% density rule and the 1,000 ft. distancing rule contained in 419.001 F.S.

Our recent efforts to introduce legislation via SB 1124 and HB 371 to exempt group homes of six residents or less from the distancing requirement contained in F.S. 419.001, if contained in a planned residential community, passed unanimously in the Florida Senate and by majority in the House. This legislation was vigorously protested by the Advocacy Center as well as the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) and so the legislation was postponed.

Sen. Altman and Rep. Kelli Stargel will reintroduce the legislation at the next legislative session.

In the meantime, we ask you to look into the biased and discriminatory comments which are indicated in the enclosed letter.

We look to you for encouragement that residential options for our children with developmental disabilities will be respected and encouraged.

Sincerely,

Lila Klausman, Pres.  
Parents Planning Programs (PPP), Inc.