



Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas

Promoting Empowerment
and Independence

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I would like to thank you for the opportunity to talk to you today about the waiting list for people who need developmental disability services in Kansas. My name is Kathy Lobb, and I work for the Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas.

I am a person with a developmental disability and I am a homeowner, an employee, a community member and a taxpayer. I am all of these things because I have received the supports and services I need to be an independent person. I am here to today to ask you to give other people with disabilities the opportunities that I have had by eliminating the waiting list in Kansas.

Currently, there are almost 3,400 people with developmental disabilities waiting for services on Kansas; this means that people have to wait 5 years to get the supports they need. These are five years of a person's life that are wasted, often times just sitting in their parents living room- just waiting.

This is a problem that is easy to solve, we just need to make sure that people get the services that they need. When people get the services that they need, they become more independent. As people become more independent, they enjoy an increased quality of life, they become more involved in the community, and very often, they become transformed from tax consumers into tax payers- like me.

Please do the right thing and eliminate the waiting list. Help people become more independent. It is the right thing to do for the people who are waiting for services. It is the right thing to do for their families. It is the right thing to do for taxpayers. It is the right thing to do for Kansas. It is simply the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lobb

Kathy Lobb

Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas

HOUSE CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES
DATE: JANUARY 25, 2011
ATTACHMENT NO. 3-1