

#128 Medicaid Data and Dept of Justice Special Education Funding Formula Investigation

Dearest Advocates:

As many of you may already be aware, the Department of Justice is conducting an investigation concerning special education services here in Georgia. The Atlanta Journal Constitution Newspaper had a great article regarding this issue. See: <http://www.ajc.com/news/georgias-special-ed-policy-1408101.html> . Below is a note from Southern Poverty Law Center and I urge you to send in comments if you have concerns with special education in the State of Georgia.
We need to speak up!

In addition, I have been involved with a Medicaid task force looking at healthcare options for the Aged, Blind and Disabled populations in GA. A few weeks ago, a report was given to the task force regarding claims incurred by Medicaid from 7/1/10-6/30/11 which had a lot of great information and data. I wanted to highlight some of that information so you are informed:

- The ABD population accounts for 25% of Medicaid enrollment but 54% of Medicaid spending in Fiscal Year 2011.
- Georgia DCH spent over \$4 billion delivering healthcare services to over 430,000 ABD members.
- In FY 2011, GA Medicaid paid over \$1.0 Billion for services under aged population, \$2.81 B for Blind/Disabled and \$210M for other ABD groups.
- Waiver and Inpatient Hospital Services account for 46% of total net payments for Blind and Disabled and Prescription Drugs account for 15%.
- The Average payment per member per year for ABD was \$9,524 compared to \$3,011 for mothers and children (Low income Medicaid and Right From the Start Medicaid Groups).
- Average members per waiver per month (Net Payment per Year): COMP: 5,904 (\$55,759); GAPP: 841 (\$106,544); Home Health: 3,357 (\$43,406); Hospice: 2,989 (\$49,282); ICWP: 948 (\$46,830); Deeming/Katie Beckett Waiver: 3,241 (\$9,058); NOW: 5,008 (\$14,233); Nursing Home: 30,986 (\$40,156); SOURCE: 21,320 (\$20,169).

In addition, if you are interested – My son, Jared, is helping to raise money for CURE Childhood Cancer by running in a 2K in honor of Jacob's this weekend. Please consider donating to a wonderful cause. Any amount would be appreciated. Thank you in advance!!

<http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/heidi-moore/18th-annual-laurens-run>

Hope you find this information helpful. Have a great day!

United- We Will Make a Difference!

Heidi J. Moore

(Proud Mother to Jacob – 12 yrs old with Down syndrome and Leukemia and Jared- 10 years old with amazing spirit & love for his brother)

Dear Friends,

In November, the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) filed a complaint with the Department of Justice against the State of Georgia and the Georgia Department of Education regarding the special education funding formula. As many of you know, Georgia uses a complex school funding formula that encourages school districts to unnecessarily segregate students with disabilities in restrictive school settings in order to receive greater funding. Worse still, the formula makes it difficult for school districts to receive full reimbursement for supportive services, such as paraprofessionals, that would allow children with disabilities to succeed in an inclusive classroom. Our students, teachers, and administrators deserve better. If you are the parent of a child who is eligible for special education services in a public school in Georgia, SPLC would like to hear from you.

Please contact us on-line through the following link: <http://www.splcenter.org/georgia-education-funding-contact-form>.

Sincerely,
Jerry Katzerman
Southern Poverty Law Center

If you would like to receive Jacob Moore's updates or post prayers, please go to: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/prayforjacobmoore> or www.teamjacob.org . To watch Jacob's Cancer Journey video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GjPfmIZ76g

For disability information and previous newsletters, please go to www.heidijmoore.com .

"Help The Children Now, So They Can Help Themselves Later!"

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