

Connecting Point

October

2020

*Please
Read*

IMPORTANT

There is a reason this is in **RED**. I want to get your attention.

Historically APD clients had 3 protections (in my opinion). The Local (and State) Advocacy Council, The Termination Rule and Independent Support Coordination.

LAC's were unfunded in the great recession and never refunded. I have more than once seen unbelievable things (like our own James not being made a client because the state lost his records) that an LAC was needed but not there.

The Termination Rule

was gutted in 2019 and all due process (in my opinion) removed. During the pandemic a local residential agency terminated 4 residents. The agency may have been right in doing so but there is **NO** due processes. The agency sends them a letter and they have to move.

In the last legislative session in Senate Bill 82 Support Coordination as we have known it will go away (ask your support coordinator). It is clear to me from Barbra Palmers testimony this is about limiting your support coordinators ability to advocate for you. When your

The Special Gathering

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Free Matter
for the Blind
and Physically
Handicapped

support coordinators asks for services you need and documents the reason, APD can't just say no. APD needs for your support coordinator to never ask for the services in the first place.

These protections are like anti-lock brakes, seatbelts and airbags in your car. Most of the time you are just fine without them. When you need them, it is too late to get them. When LAC's were unfunded there was a real financial crisis. It was like your anti-lock brakes stopped working and you had no money. You still had brakes and airbags and seatbelts. When we got through the great recession the state never refunded the LAC. Then in 2019 APD gutted the termination rule (I can send you copies of both). Then, all we had was our seatbelts (our support coordinators). Now support coordination as we know it is going away.

WE ARE IN A DANGEROUS PLACE.

Please contact your state senator and representative. Ask them to investigate this.