



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

David Carlucci

## Advocates Celebrate Passage of State Task Force on People with Developmental Disabilities

DAVID CARLUCCI July 10, 2014

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**Senator David Carlucci (D-Rockland/Westchester)** joined advocates at Jawonio to celebrate the passage of the Task Force on People with Developmental Disabilities in the Senate and Assembly this year.

The idea came from members of Jawonio who discussed the issues they faced with continuing care for their loved ones. With further research, Senator Carlucci found that developmental disabilities require a lifetime of person-centered supports and services, yet much of the focus on developmental disabilities relates to education and development, and neglects concerns that may arise later in a person's life.

**Senator David Carlucci said,** "There is a pressing need for New York to formulate achievable goals to better serve the community of adults with developmental disabilities. Developmental disabilities require a lifetime of person-centered supports. This task force will create that blueprint to provide those lifelong services which will put family concern at ease."

The task force will study, evaluate and develop recommendations relating to specific measures to support and meet the needs of adults with developmental disabilities who are residents of the state, including those who have vocational, residential and social needs. The Task Force will also evaluate the long term needs of adults with developmental disabilities who reside with aging caregivers.

**Jill Warner, CEO of Jawonio said,** "I want to thank Senator Carlucci for his leadership on the issues that matter to people with disabilities and their families. We welcome this plan and thank the Senate and the Assembly for approving this legislation that will provide the appropriate blueprint and structure of supports for individuals and families throughout their lifespan. This high-level task force is a critical enhancement in our health care delivery system and is essential for our families and care givers."

**Jawonio Parent Milt Gittelman said,** "Senator Carlucci and Jawonio stepped up to the occasion by helping to create this task force. Creating a long term plan and recommendations to support my son will help put me and my family at ease."

**Jawonio Advocacy Coach Scott Salmon said,** "Time and time again we hear from people throughout the region that they are worried about long term care. I am happy Senator Carlucci worked together with Jawonio to pass legislation that will create a task force to help address this growing concern. I look forward to seeing the Task Force's recommendations."