



ADAPT FREE OUR PEOPLE!



The rights guaranteed under the Constitution apply to all Americans. As recently noted by conservative social and political commentator Ann Coulter, the founders of this nation didn't include an asterisk in that document that exempted or applied Constitutional rights to any specific group. Even so, disabled Americans are routinely forced into nursing facilities and institutions where they are stripped of their personal liberties. They have essentially been deemed "too disabled" to live in their communities, go to school, work, marry, establish a home and bring up children. This is unacceptable and truly un-American.

For over a quarter century, ADAPT and the Disability Community have fought to ensure that no American is denied their Constitutionally-guaranteed liberty and forced into unwanted institutionalization. Eight years ago, at the start of the Obama Administration, we were hopeful the President would finally end this injustice. He did not. **ADAPT is at the White House and demands that the Trump Administration:**

- **Publicly acknowledge that the Americans with disabilities are being denied their Constitutional rights to life, liberty and due process when they are denied Medicaid Long Term Services and Supports and forced into nursing facilities and other institutions;**
- **[Demonstrate support for the Liberty of disabled Americans by advancing proposals that promote their community integration, such as Independent Living, MFP and Community First Choice.](#)**
- **Issue a statement that the President and his administration support the Disability Integration Act, bipartisan/bicameral legislation that ensures no disabled individual is denied their Constitutional right to liberty by requiring people with disabilities be provided a community-based alternative to institutional placement that allows them to lead an independent life.**
- **Designate Ivanka Trump as the Trump Administration's "Ambassador for the Disability Community" and, during the next year, send her to visit ten model programs for transitioning people with disabilities into the community, convene round-tables in ten states to support them in developing effective systems for truly integrating people with disabilities, and work to advance the Disability Integration Act; and**
- **Convene a meeting between the Disability Community – represented by ADAPT and the members of the National Disability Leadership Alliance – and key officials in the Trump administration, including the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Labor and the US Attorney General to end the forced institutionalization of disabled Americans.**