

GROW's PURPOSE

To advocate for a full spectrum of opportunities to enable individuals with developmental disabilities to achieve their greatest potential.

**PERSON CENTERED PLANNING
PERSONAL CHOICE**

**LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY
WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY**

**ADULT DAY SERVICES
RECREATION**

GROW, Inc.
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GROW is a not-for-profit, tax exempt organization.

ADVOCACY WORKS!

The many notable improvements in services for people with developmental disabilities took over a period of thirty years to accomplish. These improvements were the results of strong, determined efforts by voluntary provider agencies, dedicated government officials and, especially, parents and other family members, many of whom were founding members of GROW.

GROW keeps aware of any conditions that affect services and makes others aware of the situations. The annual trip to Albany, for example, communicates to political officials what issues are important in the lives of persons with developmental disabilities.

The GROW Newsletter, the Helpline and Membership Meetings give voice to concerns of families as well as help families learn how to deal with conditions that need improvement.

Services for people with developmental disabilities rely on funding sources as well as state laws and regulations that can change according to economic, political, and social conditions. Changes in any of these areas can affect services and therefore the lives of persons with developmental disabilities. It is essential that new members continue to join GROW so that gains of past years are not lost.

GROW has played a key role in many successes including the NYS CARES program through which many persons with developmental disabilities obtain appropriate residential settings.

Advocacy does work, but it must be an ongoing endeavor!

8/05



**An Advocacy Organization
Dedicated to:**

Gaining access to services in the community for people with developmental disabilities.

Representing those people with developmental disabilities who need residential services.

Offering information and support to families of persons with developmental disabilities.

Working with government and voluntary agencies to ensure the availability of a full spectrum of services.

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