

## WHY JOIN GROW?

**GROW** has proved to be an important and effective advocacy organization on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities.

Throughout its history, **GROW** has maintained a close relationship with agencies and legislators, sponsoring yearly forums with them.

It is **GROW**'s large membership that has enabled it to achieve so much in the past. Strength in numbers will help retain the gains of the past and promote a high level of achievement in the future.

Your support will make **GROW** an even stronger organization working for the quality services your child requires.

*"Westchester County is lucky to have an advocacy group like GROW. People with developmental disabilities need strong support to be self-sufficient and be a part of the community."*

Senator Nicholas Spano

*"To GROW. Thanks for everything you've done to inform the government about people with developmental disabilities and what government should be doing. You have made life better for thousands of people."*

Assemblyman Richard Brodsky

*"GROW is one of the most effective advocacy organizations I know."*

Kim Sweet, Associate General Counsel,

NY Lawyers for the Public Interest

**CALL THE GROW HelpLine!**

**(914) 493-1318**

## HIGHLIGHTS OF GROW'S HISTORY

Founded in 1981 by parents of individuals already in group homes, **GROW** members decide to advocate for all individuals with developmental disabilities.

1982: **GROW** originates the Registry of Persons with Developmental Disabilities in Westchester County, the first registry in the entire state.

1983: **GROW** provides key support in preserving the Westchester Institute for Human Development.

1984: **GROW** establishes HelpLine.

1988: **GROW** instrumental in production of Directory of Physicians and Dentists who treat individuals with developmental disabilities.

1989: **GROW** helps bring concept of integrated work to Westchester.

1990: **GROW** designs and obtains legislation for Ombudsman Program for group homes.

1993: **GROW** develops information packets for parents through Committees on Special Education.

1997: **GROW** unites with BOCES parents to make need of adult day services known to state legislators.

1998: **GROW** involved in bringing Class Action suit against state to address long waiting lists for residential services.

1998: NY State responds with NYSCARES program to eliminate residential wait lists in 5 years.

2002: **GROW** sponsors "Transition Planning Guide."

2003: **GROW** provides key support in passage of Health Care Decisions Act for Persons with Mental Retardation.

2005: **GROW** helps with passage of legislation for criminal background checks with fingerprinting of new direct care employees.

## GROW, Inc. Membership Registration

P.O. Box 1692 White Plains, NY 10602

NAME:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

City

State

Zip

Telephone:

Street

Please join.

The annual dues of GROW are:

Single parent or guardian: \$15.00

Family: \$20.00

Associate: \$15.00

Additional Contribution: