



## Priorities and Objectives Progress

### **GOAL 1: PREVENTING, FINDING, AND STOPPING ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN FACILITIES.**

#### **PRIORITIES TO ADDRESS:**

#### **1. Conduct systemic investigations at private secured facilities and psychiatric rehabilitation treatment facilities.**

#### Tools Used to Address Goal 1, Priority 1

##### **Educate**

##### Know Your Rights Presentations:

- 3 presentations; 107 attendees
- **Outcome** – IDR spoke with a resident who reported that he is frequently locked in his room "for his safety" but there is no mechanical release on the inside of his door. This was reported to the facility, who stated they would fix the mechanisms. IDR also reported the issue to DCS resulting in a corrective action plan.
- IDR, in conjunction with Child Advocates, applied for a grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to support this project.
- IDR met with the Director of IARCA to provide information about IDR and the goal of the Know Your Rights project.

##### Know Your Rights Handbook:

The AND team is developing a handbook for kids in facilities to better understand their rights. The team has started to identify the layout of the booklet and the rights to be included in the booklet.

##### **Monitor and Investigate**

##### PRTF and PSF Monitoring

- 7 facility visits completed
- 2 reports filed with overseeing entities
- **Outcomes:**
  - IDR filed a complaint with DCS resulting in substantiated allegations with two plans of correction.
  - As a result of IDR advocacy, one PSF stopped using suicide smocks ("turtle suits"). The facility also stopped the blanket use of paper spoons and now allows girls to use plastic utensils and any use of paper spoons must be an individualized and documented need.
  - IDR contacted IDOH to determine where to make reports when IDR learns that a facility is not reporting serious occurrences. This resulted in



notification to OMPP. OMPP sent a memo to all PRTFs stating the reporting requirements. IDR followed this letter with its own letter stating the incidents that are also to be reported to IDR.

**Advocate**

Litigation

*Ashley W. et al v. Holcomb et al (3:19-cv-00129-RLY-MPB; U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana)*

IDR continues to litigate. The case is currently stayed in the district court while Defendants appeal the district court’s decision denying their motion to dismiss on abstention grounds. Plaintiffs are still pending class certification in the district court. Plaintiffs have connected with a potential ADA expert.

**Community Connections**

- Rachel Roman-Lagunas, Child Advocates – connection resulted in IDR co-presenting the Know Your Rights trainings in PSFs detailed above.

**2. Investigate suspected abuse, neglect, and exploitation in facilities or by a service provider.**

Tools Used to Address Goal 1, Priority 2

**Educate**

No education activities tied to this priority

**Monitor and Investigate**

Rep Payee – IDR presented 34 Rep Payee reviews to SSA which are now in end stages.

Investigations – 27 investigations were opened or still open during Q1; 4 investigations were substantiated.

<b>Investigations in Q1</b>	<b>Opened</b>	<b>Closed</b>
Unnecessary Restraint	0	1
Death of Patient	2	3
Neglect	1	5
Other Abuse	1	0
Missing Category	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>

Public Reports

[\*Slipping Through the Safety Net: How Indiana’s Disability Services System Failed One Client and Jeopardizes Others\*](#)