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DISABILITY RIGHTS ACTIVISTS DEMAND NATIONAL SOCIAL PROGRAMS ACCOUNTABILITY IN WASHINGTON DC APRIL 22-24; PROTESTS EXPECTED

ADAPT Urges Obama Administration to Keep Its Promises on Community Living for People with Disabilities

Washington, DC---As the nation faces down the effects of sequester cuts and debates the future of social programs, the national disability rights group ADAPT will be in the nation's capital for protest actions concerning Medicaid and home services beginning Monday, April 22 following its annual FUN*RUN on April 21, beginning at 1 pm in Upper Senate Park.

Several hundred ADAPT activists from around the US will converge on the nation's capital to spread ADAPT's message of "Our Homes! Not Nursing Homes!" The civil disobedience at ADAPT actions has historically led to mass arrests of activists, such as last April when 74 ADAPTERs, including actor Noah Wyle, were arrested for protesting Medicaid cuts in the Cannon House Office Building.

"We have not and cannot allow the values of independence and community living to be threatened by proposed austerity policies that totally disregard the basic supports that keep millions of people with disabilities thriving in the community," said David Wittie of ADAPT of Texas. "We are coming to DC to once again hold public officials accountable to the human rights of people with disabilities, who are often the poorest of the poor."

ADAPT will hold the Obama administration and other offices accountable for unfulfilled promises made regarding community living and attendant services, which would enable millions of people with disabilities to lead independent lives, stay out of institutions and work in their communities. While some progress has been made, according to Chicago ADAPT member Scott Nance, "Officials in several Cabinet-level departments as well as the Administration itself need to hear how inaction and poor decision-making on their part threatens the everyday life of people with disabilities and their attendants."

To be added to our press list for daily press updates, please email Adam Ballard at adam.ballard1@gmail.com.

More information about ADAPT can be found at <http://www.adapt.org/> and www.doloffmybody.org.

Live Twitter updates are at www.twitter.com/nationaladapt.

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