

Quarterly Newsletter

March 2025

A note from PAS Operations Manager, Karen Dillon:

Spring is here, and with it comes new opportunities to stay informed and engaged in self-direction. Our latest newsletter is packed with important updates, resources, and news to support your journey.

We are looking forward to celebrating Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March and hope you stop by our office for giveaways throughout the month.

The Applied Self-Direction Conference will take place virtually every Wednesday throughout March and April. This conference is a great opportunity to learn from experts, connect with others in the self-direction community, and stay up to date on important policy and practice changes. See our upcoming events and conferences below for more information.

We understand your concerns surrounding Medicaid funding discussions in Washington. In this issue, you'll find helpful resources to answer your questions and navigate any potential changes to your supports and services.

Included in the newsletter is our participant spotlight with Ryan Klotz. Ryan has been enrolled with PAS for over 20 years and recently sat down with us to share his journey to independence with self-direction.

Thank you for partnering with PAS. We're excited to continue this journey with you and bring you the latest self-direction news.

In today's email:

- Share Your Story to Protect Medicaid Funding Access
- PAS Celebrates World Autism Awareness Month
- What is an Independent Living Center?
- Quarterly Reader Poll
- Upcoming Events and Conferences
- Participant Spotlight - Meet Ryan Klotz

Share Your Voice to Protect Medicaid Funding Access



The House Budget Committee passed a budget resolution that could slash Medicaid funding over the next ten years if reconciled in Congress. Spending cuts proposed by Congress aim to fund other initiatives, such as tax reductions. However, they could limit access to essential healthcare services for many Americans. This includes people with disabilities.

[Support Medicaid in Michigan](#)



PAS is on social media! Click to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn and stay up to date with all things PAS.



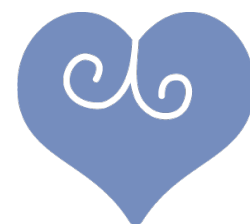
PAS Celebrates World Autism Acceptance Month in April

April is World Autism Acceptance Month (WAAM). In April and all months, PremierFMS strives to promote understanding, inclusion, and support for people with autism. We also encourage acceptance of different abilities and perspectives.

[World Autism Acceptance Month Events and Resources](#)

Share Your Story

Do you want to share your Self-Direction journey or have a PAS story to share? We are always looking to hear of stories from Self-Advocates and direct care professionals. We would love to hear from you.



[Share Your PAS Story](#)

What is an Independent Living Center?



Independent Living Centers are community-based organizations run by and for people with disabilities. ILCs support independent living in and around one's community. According to the Administration for Community Living (ACL), there are over 400 ILCs in the country.

[Learn More About Independent Living Centers](#)



Did You Know?

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and you can get involved with the NACDD social media campaign. Click below to submit your posts!

[Celebrate DDAM](#)



Quarterly Reader Poll

How confident do you feel using EVV?

I already use EVV and I am an expert with it.

I already use EVV and I would like to learn more.

I am familiar with EVV but would like to learn more.

I don't know much about EVV and need training and resources.

Upcoming Events & Conferences

What	When	About
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month	All of March	NACDD Social Media Campaign
Applied Self-Direction Virtual Conference	Wednesdays throughout March and April	Conference Schedule
CMHA Summer Conference	June 9 - 11, 2025 Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, MI	CMHA Conferences and Training

PAS is ready to assist you with your EVV questions. At PAS, we have:

- Over 5 years of experience with EVV.



- 100% compliance of EVV use with direct care professionals.
- Experienced staff members with an average tenure of over five years that is fully trained on EVV use and best practices.
- Proactive training for employers and employees during enrollment.



Participant Spotlight - Meet Ryan Klotz



Get to Know Ryan

Ryan Klotz is a self-advocate for Individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (I/DD) in Wayne County. Ryan is very active in his communities. He serves as a Community Transitions Trainer for the Developmental Disabilities Institute at Wayne State University.

He advocates frequently for I/DD in Lansing with state legislators. He has been enrolled in self-direction services with PAS for over 20 years and sat down with PAS to share his journey in self-direction. Ryan shares how self-direction opened him up to new experiences and responsibilities as an adult.

[Learn more about Ryan's Self-Direction journey](#)



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