



Down Syndrome Achievement Centers
educate. inspire. believe.

Detroit, MI

May 19, 2021

Dear Representative Kahle,

The news cycle over the last several years has been highlighting the discrimination felt by various groups throughout our country. However, one group that is never mentioned is the disability community. As COVID hit last year, an immense fear swept through this community as we read and heard stories of overcrowded hospitals leading to medical staff having to “choose” which patients to care for and abandoning those patients with disabilities. It is unfortunate that historically individuals with disabilities have not been deemed worthy enough to receive certain life saving interventions and instead were left to die. As the board president of the only Down syndrome achievement center in the State of Michigan, I praise your advocacy and am in full support of the legislation preventing discrimination on receiving organ transplants based upon disability. As the mother of a child with a dual diagnosis of Down syndrome and autism, I am grateful for your leadership regarding this often overlooked and marginalized group of people.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kocab
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GiGi's Playhouse Detroit is a part of a series of Down syndrome achievement centers throughout the country and in Mexico. The organization was created to change the way the world views a Down syndrome diagnosis and to send a global message of acceptance for all.