

**KEY  
CAMPAIGN,  
2004**

**SFIN**

**FILE**



*Aaron with his sister at the fair*

Five year old Aaron was informally diagnosed with autism by the Infant Learning Program at age 2; without their intervention, we would have probably remained in denial of his developmental disability, missing the best ages (2-6) to intervene with treatment. After formal testing by a pediatric neurodevelopment specialist, Dr. Brennan, we were led to the IEI (Intensive Early Intervention) program, state-funded & led by Dr. Todd Risley of UAA. When this program lost its funding, we were forced to find, organize, and deliver our own Autism program led by Dr. John McEachin from Seal Beach, California. We have three highly trained therapists that work with Aaron 20+ hrs a week in addition to 20 hours of special education pre-school.



*Aaron at the fair*



*Aaron with siblings*



*Aaron with sister*

Our only state funding is through the Respite program for one of the three therapists at a time (we have had ten home therapists over the last 2 years; only three have used our minimal respite hours). No state money is allotted for the two-day, very expensive, on-site work sessions by Dr. McEachin (four times a year). This program has drained all our savings and working capital. We live pay-check to pay-check, watching these proven intervention efforts bring Aaron out of his autistic world, and hopefully out of special education, allowing him to mainstream with normal peers for the remainder of his life. This means that he **WOULD NOT BE A BURDEN** on the State after these formative years.

**Information, intervention, and funding are the keys to success for autistic children**



*Aaron in treatment w/ trained ABA therapist.*



*Self-portrait with Dr. McEachin & Potato heads*



**Do Complex Medical Care Waviers  
make a difference?**

**To five year old Claire Turnbough  
and her family they do!  
Fairbanks, Alaska**



**Claire gives the  
smile of approval  
as she tries out  
her own new bed!  
October, 2003**



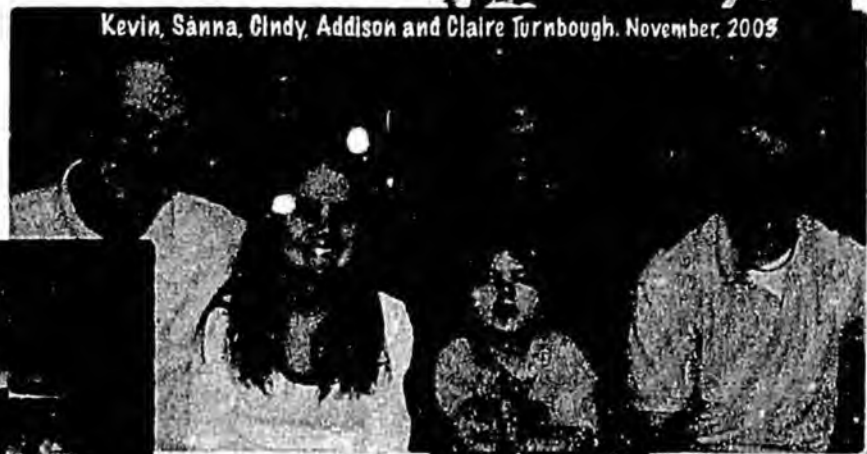
**Claire recovering from surgery at  
Providence Hospital, February, 2003**



**Claire receives final  
fitting for her new  
orthodies at  
Shriners Hospital,  
Portland, OR Jan., 2004**



**Claire gets flocked wearing her big brother's  
sunglasses at home, June, 2003**



**Kevin, Sanna, Cindy, Addison and Claire Turnbough, November, 2003**



**Claire's adjusting  
to her body cast  
following a double  
hip surgery at  
Shriners Hospital,  
Portland, OR  
Dec. 2003**



**Claire loves  
reading books  
at home**



**Like every Alaskan  
Claire loves being outside  
in the wonderful  
summer weather  
in Fairbanks,  
thanks to her KIDCAP  
Aug. 2003**

**WHY** are we here in Juneau?

Did you know:

Nearly 1,500 individuals are on the State's Wait List for developmental disabilities community services.

The average wait is 3-5 years – a common cause of broken families and out-of-home placements?

There is a huge cost savings when a family's needs are met when they first arise.

The average costs for adults with disabilities to live in the community are half of what it costs to live in a nursing home or institution?

Community supports make sense, both fiscally and programmatically, and that's why we're here in Juneau.

We believe that children should remain at home with their parents, with adequate supports to deal with the special challenges and stresses.

We believe that adults with disabilities have the right to live in neighborhoods of choice; have meaningful jobs; have opportunities to contribute to their community; live a life of dignity and value.

We ask your help. We need our Governor and Legislature to assure that the Family of Alaska includes people with disabilities. We need a commitment to end the Wait List NOW! Please join us as we march, rally, advocate. Tell our elected officials that you believe in the dream of this Key Campaign – that **COMMUNITY** is for everyone and that the time to end the waiting is now.

Thank you on behalf of our families, our children, adolescents and adults who experience disabilities.

For 17 years, the Key Campaign has united people from across Alaska. We have brought together consumers, families and service providers to advocate for those who still wait for services.

In the beginning we were small, but we've grown every year. We have chapters in rural and urban Alaska. We have traveled to Juneau 17 times and we will continue to travel to Juneau for as long as it takes- for as long as people are forced to go without supports; for as long as the bureaucracy chooses to look at faceless statistics instead of human beings in need; for as long as families disintegrate in the reality of inadequate supports. And afterward we will go back to our communities across Alaska and tell the people who wait why the bureaucracy fails to respond.

Please join us at the  
**Capitol Steps Rally**  
March 3, 2004  
At 12:00 noon

Please be one of those who sees the need and realizes the advantage of keeping together; who realizes the economic advantage of helping people become self-sufficient and who chooses to help. Please join us as a member of the Key Coalition of Alaska.

## *Key XVII Campaign 2004*



## *Building Community Together*





*March 2 and 3, 2004  
Juneau, Alaska*

*Community is the Key for  
Alaskans who experience  
developmental disabilities*

## What is the Key Coalition?

The Key Coalition is a statewide coalition of supporters, friends and advocates for Alaskans who experience developmental disabilities.

### Key Coalition basic beliefs:

-  Community is truly a place for everyone.
-  Individuals who experience a disability have a right to live in the community.
-  Individuals and their families must have the power to assume a meaningful role in their community.
-  Government has a primary responsibility to provide realistic, non-intrusive, non-segregating, community for ALL of its citizens.

The Key Coalition advocates for equal opportunity, accessibility, and inclusive communities for all Alaskans who experience disabilities.

## COMMUNITY, That's what it's all about!

*Community services are the most cost-effective way of providing services*

COMMUNITY SERVICES ARE THE KEY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO EXPERIENCE A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

*Community services support over 2100 people in 197 communities.*

### Residential Supports

Accessible Housing  
Individual Leases/Home Ownership  
Low Interest Loans

### Employment Supports

Subsistence Activities  
Community Jobs  
Job Training

### Home Modifications

Ramps  
Accessible Bathrooms  
Stair Climbers

*Community services help people become self sufficient*

### Family Support Project

Family Resource Specialist  
Task Centered,  
Short Term Support

### In-Home Supports

Respite  
Personal Care Attendants  
Chore Services  
Specialized Equipment

### TEFRA

Children Staying at Home

*Community services contribute back to the economy*

Please,  
Support the  
Key  
Campaign!



Thanks



# For Being the Key to My SUCCESS....

My name is Aubrey and I'm two years old. I've been receiving services under the Children with Complex Medical Conditions (CCMC) waiver through FOCUS Inc. for the past year. And oh, what a year it's been! I've gained 7 ½ pounds and grew 4 inches. I've learned how to sit up, crawl and pull myself up on the furniture. I only had to stay overnight at the hospital five nights, we went to the emergency room a couple of times, but they let me go home with my Mom and Dad. I didn't have to have any surgeries this year! I was even healthy enough to visit my other Mom, Dad, sisters and brothers in the village. I have so many people who love me, care for me, support me, teach me and keep me safe. Some people come to our house, but Mom has to drive me to my other places. They watch my weight and how much I eat, take pictures of my heart, give me shots and take my blood - not fun. They're also teaching me to eat, walk and talk, I'm learning sign language and how to play with other kids. Now that's fun. I love Elmo and Nemo, looking at books, taking baths, listening to Mozart and playing with all my toys. When my Mom and Dad need a break, I go to Saige's house. She's my respite provider and she's really nice. The nurse from FOCUS told Mom that I have the CCMC waiver for another year, as long as there is money. I know I'm getting all the help I need, but there are other kids who need help and have to wait. Please don't make them wait: they need help, too.

Thanks again, and we'll see you next year,

Aubrey

1. Emily Ennis, Fairbanks
2. John Harris, Wasilla
3. Cindy Turnbough, Fairbanks
4. Pat, Eniseida & Rob Buongiorno
5. Kim Simpson & Aubrey  
Chugiak
6. Dennis Haas, Soldatna & Roger Landell  
Kena.
7. Cyd Bantee, Anchorage
8. Steve Lesko, Anchorage
9. Emily Ennis, Fairbanks.

A little help goes a long way ...



Support Alaskans with developmental disabilities

A message from the Key Coalition of Alaska 333-7295 or [airstrip@gei.net](mailto:airstrip@gei.net)

A little help goes a long way ...



... in building community one life at a time

Support Alaskans with developmental disabilities

A message from the Key Coalition of Alaska, 333-7295 or [airstrip@gci.net](mailto:airstrip@gci.net)




**Qualified childcare for  
medically fragile infants**

**— so parents can re-  
base with their other kids.**

**We build communities one life at a time.**

A message from the Key Coalition of Alaska 333-7295 or [airstrip@gci.net](mailto:airstrip@gci.net)



Inclusion: a basic ingredient...

for building community, one life at a time.

Support Alaskans with developmental disabilities.

A message from the Key Coalition of Alaska, 731-7295 or [alaska@kci.net](mailto:alaska@kci.net)