

This past year has been a year of regression for my 19 year old son. He has autism, and was beginning to start with his transition to adulthood services. Then he came home in March and never returned to his special education classroom.

Not only is the future as an adult with disabilities very scary, it's coming quickly. He masks, he washes his hands, he is doing his part for society. But the State is failing him. He is not receiving the free and appropriate education he is entitled to and the State is legally bound to give him.

Daniel has regressed more in this last year than we could have imagined. He is self-injurious, he elopes our home. He has behaviors we had extinguished 8 years ago reappearing, and new, dangerous behaviors re-emerging. We are doing everything possible to help him, but he needs more time. And that time is ticking away with every closure and union keeping his school closed.

Please consider giving kids like Daniel, who are so close to the end of their education the additional time to make up what has been lost.