



Wisconsin Board for People
with Developmental Disabilities

August 2025



Tyler Engel has been an advocate for people with disabilities his whole life by promoting inclusion in schools and in the community by being a peer mentor, leading various advocacy groups, promoting adapted sports, making sporting events more inclusive, and providing architecture reviews for accessibility. Currently, Tyler works to improve the respite care and caregiving systems in a global context and evaluating voting access. Tyler is in the IRIS program and manages his support and cares in Madison.

For the last 6 months, we have been fighting for our lives. We have all taken on an additional part-time job (at least) to ensure that our representatives know how important Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security

are to keep people healthy and in our own homes. Unfortunately, we didn't win that fight, but I hope we made an impact.

We have been in the same fight for over 30 years. I know many of us would rather be advocating for progress, not to maintain the minimal rights and services we have. There is a silver lining, I hope. With our systems being completely dismantled, they will need to be rebuilt. We can rebuild them with our voices leading the conversation and writing the policies to create true equity for folks with disabilities.