



“ I believe **all youth** in BC should be given equal opportunities ”

Dear Supporter,

Margaret Lavery called Inclusion BC for help. Her 20-year-old daughter, Katrina, had been at home in Victoria with nowhere to go since her high school graduation a year earlier. Home supports for Katrina had been cut substantially after Margaret rejected living arrangements that weren't safe. Katrina needs support in all that she does. Margaret lost job contracts and suffered severe emotional distress as she fought for government services.

We leveraged Inclusion BC's profile to get the Lavery's what they deserved. We called on senior decision makers within government including Community Living BC. We brought it to the attention of the Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation, and we worked alongside Margaret as she told her story to the media.

Katrina moved into her new home in October. After 3 long years, her mother's commitment to making sure she has a good and safe life was realized.

Inclusion BC is a trusted ally and advocate for parents in crisis.

I remain connected to Margaret and am proud to know her. We build on our advocacy experiences with amazing people like Margaret to inform systems change at the local, provincial, and national level.

As a not-for-profit, we need allies too. Your support means we can continue to help families like Katrina and Margaret and mobilize change.

Faith Bodnar
Executive Director, Inclusion BC

“ I had to leave my job when my daughter graduated high school. Despite all of our planning there was a 9-month wait for services. ”

“ I want the same opportunities for both my kids. When my daughter graduated high school, she started university. Now it's my son's turn and he has nowhere to go. ”

“ Eventually we got the letter saying funding was going to start, but it did not match my son's complex needs. We can't choose between his health, safety and his right to be part of the community. ”

“ Because of lack of funding, my partner has had to stay home full-time with our daughter for 4 years now. This can't go on. We need help, but we're not getting anywhere asking for government services. ”

These are the voices of parents calling for help. Inclusion BC supported 275 advocacy cases in the last year. **The number of calls is growing and many concern families on the edge of crisis.** In November, 2016 we added a Community Inclusion Advocate to the team, providing dedicated support where and when it's needed. Welcome Tina!

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