

To my AHRC family, my friends and colleagues at IAC, and all of the Education and Early Childhood Advocates, Parents and Self-Advocates that I have been privileged to work with,

For the past few months, I have been fighting a private battle. In November, I was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. I have been receiving treatment since then but recently found out the treatment did not work. The cancer is progressing. I will be entering hospice care within the next few days.

I started this journey in 1983 as a volunteer and never imagined at that time it would become my life's passion and work. For the past 43 years, I have fought to ensure that children with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive the services they are entitled to, the funding they need for those services and that services are delivered by highly qualified, well-trained professional staff.

I have trained thousands of parents and advocates with the vision and belief that transferring my knowledge to them would improve the lives of the children they were fighting for.

It has been the privilege of a lifetime to work alongside remarkable women, men, parents and self-advocates all committed to the shared, collective mission to improve the lives of people with intellectual and development disabilities.

I hope to continue working for as long as I can because I know the fight continues. Please honor me by continuing to do the essential work that you all do. Continue the work with a renewed sense of urgency and passion. Continue the work until our goals and demands are met. And know that I will be cheering you on for as long as I can.

If you would like to reach out to me, please send a note to [christopher.treiber@ahrcnyc.org](mailto:christopher.treiber@ahrcnyc.org).

With appreciation and gratitude,

Chris Treiber