

Kecia Weller

“No one with disabilities should have to deal with abuse.”

I want to break the silence and fear to talk and report people who hurt others. As a self and peer advocate who sits on boards and councils, I represent my community. I help craft public policies that improve our lives. I want to help people with disabilities break through the barrier that abuse brings and become empowered to help break the chains of abuse.



People tell me that they were told by their abusers to BE QUIET and not talk about it. I feel strongly that all of us have to be educated and have trusted friends who will help us have the courage to report people who take advantage of us - take our money, beat us up, or intimidate us. I learned abuse comes in many different ways that you might not be aware, such as:

- Someone taking your ATM card and taking your money
- Uncomfortable, unwanted touch
- Being forced to make important decisions and not understanding what they mean

As a former Consumer Advocate for a regional center, it was my job to help other advocates stand up for themselves. When the video idea came along, I realized this is an important way I can continue my advocacy. So if you like the video, pass it along to others. Most important, if you or someone you know has had an abusive experience – share with someone you trust and report to authorities.

Kecia Weller has been a disability rights advocate for over 15 years. She works for a government agency that helps people with developmental disabilities live a life equal to their non-disabled peers.