

There are many families from all over Florida who have children with Autism, Autism Spectrum Disorders and emotional disabilities who are being restrained, forced into locked seclusion rooms, suspended and now arrested in the public school system due to their disabilities.

Our children are being injured physically and mentally because of their disabilities and the lack of appropriate school programs and highly qualified teachers and aides.

Florida has no laws or regulations to protect our children from these harsh failure treatments. Most of our school districts have no guidelines, no tracking system, no consent from parents, and no parent notification.

Many of our children have little or no communication and the only way they can communicate is through behavior. Because school staff do not understand what our children are trying to say through behaviors, they are punished by being restrained, put in seclusion, verbally abused, suspended or arrested.

The trauma this has caused our children and the emotional drain to our families should never happen to any child or family.

Regards,

Phyllis Musumeci
Families Against Restraint and Seclusion
Palm Beach County, Florida