

August 7, 2015

Max Barrows
Green Mountain Self-Advocates
2 Prospect Street, Suite 6
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Max:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on being chosen as a "Champion of Change" and your recent trip to the White House.

It takes a strong person to stand up to stigma and, rather than being silenced by it, seeks to change it. Your years of work helping those whom society has deemed "voiceless" find their own voice proves that you are one of those rare, strong people. Independence and self-responsibility are two of my core values; I believe I inherited them from both of my parents, especially my father, a World War II veteran who lost his legs in combat but never let his disability stand in his way. I like to think he would have been honored to meet you and work with you.

Through your hard work and public presence, you are setting an example and spreading a message which will benefit our State for years to come. Congratulations again on this honor, and thank you for your commitment to Vermont.

Best regards,

Phil Scott