

**Testimony of Jill Egle representing The Arc of Northern Virginia  
Senate Finance Subcommittee on Health and Human Resources  
January 12, 2007**

Hi my name is Jill Egle and I work for The Arc of Northern Virginia. I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to you today. I am a self-advocate for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I am here to ask for your support of the Northern Virginia Differential, which will go toward the Medicaid Waiver so adults with or without intellectual or developmental disabilities can live the life they want in the community.

Because there is not a Northern Virginia Differential for MR and DD Waiver services like there is for other waivers, 70 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities have had to leave their home community and their families to go find services in another area of the Commonwealth. When parents pass away, adults with disabilities are concerned about finding the services and supports they need to live “*A Life Like Yours*” in the community.

Speaking for myself...I live in Vienna, Virginia with my mom, my dad (or as I call him my “padna”) and my aunt who also has a disability and I would like to remain and stay in the town of Vienna. This is my home and I do not want to have to move away.

“*A Life Like Yours*” to me is being able to live in your community and make a living wage. I get drop in supports through an agency called JDI so I can work at The Arc as an administrative assistant and a self-advocate leader. My goal is to wean my drop-in supports away so I can do my tasks by myself and take on the role of a self-advocacy leader with my own intellectual self.



(Above) Me showing my first paycheck to Senator Patsy Ticer and Delegate Brian Moran

***Please sign on to Senator Colgan’s Budget Amendment for a 20% Northern Virginia Differential so that all the adults with disabilities who are rallying today can live the life like yours in the community.***