



ARRM

*ARRM leads the advancement of
community-based services that
support people with disabilities in
their pursuit of meaningful lives.*

1185 N. CONCORD ST. TEL 651.291.1086
SUITE NUMBER 302 TOLL 800.551.2211
SOUTH SAINT PAUL FAX 651.293.9389
MINNESOTA 55075 WEB ARR.M.ORG

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 5, 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Drew Henry, Communications Director
651-291-1806 x. 4, dhensy@arrm.org

ARRM Responds to Lawsuit against State

South St. Paul, Minn. – In response to the class-action lawsuit filed Wednesday accusing the State of Minnesota of a discriminatory residential service system, Association of Residential Resources in Minnesota (ARRM) CEO Bruce Nelson issued this statement on behalf of ARRM members:

“ARRM has long advocated for ensuring people with disabilities’ rights to live independently in the setting of their choice, including leading the push to pass and implement legislation protecting these rights.

“In the 1970s, when Minnesota stepped out as a national leader in rejecting institutionalization, group homes were seen as the premier for community-based services for people with disabilities. Today, group homes continue to be the best choice for many Minnesotans and we stand in strong support of group homes as a key part of the continuum of care and support from which people can choose.

“However, thanks to societal innovations in technology, support services and yes, public attitudes, there are many more options for people with disabilities to live independently in our communities, often at a lower cost to themselves and the state. Our public and private systems must create every opportunity to ensure they and their families are provided the resources to make the best living choice for themselves and their loved ones, including allocating enough state funding to support direct service providers and caregivers.

“To support the individual choices of all persons served, ARRM believes Minnesota must maintain a full set of available residential options, including group home community settings. We will actively monitor this litigation to ensure this continuum continues to be accessible.”

For additional comment or background information, please contact Drew Henry, communications director

for ARRM (dhenry@arrm.org, 651-291-1086 x. 4).

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ARRM is a nonprofit association of more than 200 Minnesotan providers, businesses and advocates dedicated to leading the advancement of community-based services that support people living with disabilities in their pursuit of meaningful lives. ARRM members support people with developmental, intellectual and physical disabilities including autism, brain injury and mental health needs. People served live in their own homes, adult foster care settings, and other community settings. Founded in 1970, ARRM continues to lead positive industry reforms that support Minnesotans with disabilities. To learn more, visit arrm.org, and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).