



Step By Step, Inc.

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November 18, 2009

Dr. James Conroy and Ms. Jean Searle
c/o James W. Conroy, Ph.D.
Center for Outcome Analysis
426B Darby Road
Havertown, PA 19083

Dear Dr. Conroy and Ms. Searle:

We are pleased to endorse the purpose and mission of the Pennhurst Memorial and Preservation Alliance to honor, commemorate, remember and interpret the stories of the people with disabilities across the nation who have struggled for freedom and self-determination. It is fitting that these stories be told at Pennhurst, where that struggle found its most important victory. Pennhurst embodies warnings, in bricks and mortar, about our treatment of persons we all too easily in the past have classed as "the other." Equally important, Pennhurst testifies to the true power of the human spirit to endure, to overcome, and to grow.

At this time, there are many discussions underway with the current property owner / developer, the township, and many others to determine how the mission of the Alliance can best be achieved.

To date, the Alliance has had the following impressive accomplishments:

1. Designated as member of International Sites of Conscience
2. Established National Register of Historic Places Eligibility
3. Engaged in positive planning discussions with the current owner, the local township and preservationists in developing possible plans.
4. Obtained \$20,000 grant for master site planning.
5. Our Board of Directors includes key national policy makers, disability advocates, and self advocates, and political representatives.
6. Developed a primary resource website at www.preservepennhurst.org
7. Developed an Advisory Board consisting of prominent leaders in the field of disabilities including Bill Baldini, the TV10 news reporter who broke the story on the horrific conditions at Pennhurst in 1968.

As a founding organizational endorser of the project we agree to the following:

1. Support the idea of a National Disability Museum and Memorial to be developed on the Pennhurst campus
2. Remain actively aware of the planning and development of the Pennhurst Memorial as it grows and keep our Board of Directors and membership apprised.
3. Permit the use of our organization's name and logo to be used on the Alliance's web page and in promotional letters and announcements.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
Cross Valley Commons
744 Kidder Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
(570) 829-3477

LEHIGH VALLEY REGION
(Lehigh, Northampton & Berks)
623 W. Union Boulevard
Bethlehem, PA 18018
(610) 867-0688

NORTHEAST REGION
(Lucerne, Wyoming,
Lackawanna, Susquehanna,
Wayne, Carbon, Monroe & Pike)
Cross Valley Commons
744 Kidder Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
(570) 829-3477
Children's Behavioral Health
(570) 822-5653

SOUTHEAST REGION
(Philadelphia & Delaware)
67 Long Lane
Upper Darby, PA 19082
(610) 352-7837

SOUTHWEST REGION
(Montgomery)
1012 West 9th Avenue
Suite 150
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(610) 265-2015

WESTERN REGION
(Allegheny)
275 Curry Hollow Road
Building 3
Pittsburgh, PA 15236
(412) 655-8677



4. Help spread the word about the importance of the Pennhurst Memorial to other groups and help to bring understanding of its Mission and Purpose.

We fully support your vision of a community of conscience at Pennhurst and look forward to furthering its creation. As a "lace of inclusion, designed to elicit reflection and growth toward a better future", the PMPA's vision for Pennhurst offers a unique resource to the nation that time will prove indispensable.

Sincerely,



James L. Bobeck
President/CEO