

# Are There Really "Natural Supports" for Individuals with Disabilities?



1. I am a		Response Percent	Response Count
Parent/guardian and caregiver of an individual(s) with a disability		82.7%	81
Parent/guardian of an individual(s) with a disability		15.3%	15
Caregiver of an individual(s) with a disability		1.0%	1
Individual with a Disability		1.0%	1
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>98</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

2. The individual with a disability is the following age		Response Percent	Response Count
0-4		0.0%	0
5-9		0.0%	0
10-14		0.0%	0
15-19		0.0%	0
19-24		100.0%	98
25+		0.0%	0
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>98</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

**3. Choose all that apply. The individual with a disability has a**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Physical disability		39.8%	39
<b>Cognitive disability</b>		<b>79.6%</b>	<b>78</b>
Mental Health Disability		31.6%	31
Other (please specify)		33.7%	33
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>98</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

**4. Choose all that apply: I have "natural supports" that I can regularly depend on to help from the following:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Immediate extended family (brothers, sisters, grandma, etc.)		27.6%	27
Neighbors		2.0%	2
Friends		13.3%	13
Church		9.2%	9
Social group		10.2%	10
<b>None that I can think of</b>		<b>51.0%</b>	<b>50</b>
Other (please specify)		15.3%	15
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>98</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

**5. I feel that my level of help and support from my "natural supports" is**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strong		7.1%	7
Moderate		17.3%	17
Little		20.4%	20
Miniscule		21.4%	21
<b>No support from "Natural supports"</b>		<b>33.7%</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>answered question</b>			<b>98</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>0</b>

**6. I have been made to feel "guilty" by other parents, professionals, service folks, articles in magazines/bulletins, the "system," and/or others regarding my level of having "natural supports"**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Never		38.8%	38
<b>Sometimes</b>		<b>39.8%</b>	<b>39</b>
Frequently		16.3%	16
A lot		5.1%	5
<b>answered question</b>			<b>98</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>0</b>

**7. In regards to training in gaining and using "natural supports"**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
<b>I have received no such training</b>		<b>77.6%</b>	<b>76</b>
I have received training and it has not been helpful		14.3%	14
I have received training and it has been somewhat helpful		7.1%	7
I have received training and it has been very helpful		1.0%	1
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>98</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

**8. Please provide comments and thoughts about any aspect of "natural supports" you would like to share. This is an anonymous poll.**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	66
<b>answered question</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>32</b>

**Q3. Choose all that apply. The individual with a disability has a**

1	mute	Apr 13, 2011 8:37 PM
2	intractable epilepsy and autism	Apr 14, 2011 7:46 AM
3	Asperger's	Apr 14, 2011 11:13 AM
4	Blind, non-typical communication skills	Apr 14, 2011 11:41 AM
5	Non Verbal, and uses a wheelchair	Apr 14, 2011 3:37 PM
6	autism	Apr 15, 2011 3:02 PM
7	non verbal	Apr 15, 2011 6:45 PM
8	autism	Apr 17, 2011 8:02 AM
9	seizure disorder	Apr 17, 2011 8:53 AM
10	autism	Apr 18, 2011 7:45 AM
11	Down Syndrome, both mental and physical	Apr 18, 2011 8:01 AM
12	autism	Apr 18, 2011 8:12 AM
13	Mood, severe ADHD, speech/language deficits	Apr 18, 2011 9:24 AM
14	Autism	Apr 18, 2011 8:16 PM
15	vision impairment	Apr 18, 2011 9:25 PM
16	Autism	Apr 19, 2011 5:27 AM
17	Aspergers Disorder	Apr 19, 2011 10:28 AM
18	Rubinstein-Taybi syndrome	Apr 19, 2011 11:49 AM
19	autism	Apr 19, 2011 6:11 PM
20	medically frail	Apr 20, 2011 9:54 AM
21	Rett Syndrome	Apr 20, 2011 12:03 PM
22	speech/communication	Apr 21, 2011 12:53 PM
23	Autism	Apr 21, 2011 1:39 PM
24	autism specturm disorder	Apr 21, 2011 1:46 PM
25	Autism	Apr 21, 2011 5:30 PM
26	Autism, Tuberous Sclerosis	Apr 21, 2011 6:23 PM
27	severe sensory issues	Apr 21, 2011 7:36 PM
28	Autism, bipolar disorder	Apr 22, 2011 5:01 AM
29	seizure disorder	Apr 22, 2011 11:42 AM

**Q3. Choose all that apply. The individual with a disability has a**

30	at the moment, she seems to have an undiagnosed depression.	Apr 22, 2011 1:51 PM
31	autism	Apr 22, 2011 8:52 PM
32	PDD-NOS	Apr 23, 2011 8:23 AM
33	developmental Autism	Apr 25, 2011 10:34 AM

**Q4. Choose all that apply:****I have "natural supports" that I can regularly depend on to help from the following:**

1	One sibling, who has a full time job. He helps several hours in a month. Was sent out of the country last summer for his job.	Apr 13, 2011 10:01 PM
2	rarely, my sister	Apr 14, 2011 7:46 AM
3	Now--spouse. 10 years ago, none	Apr 14, 2011 11:13 AM
4	The only available to me is my husband/guardian	Apr 14, 2011 11:41 AM
5	We have a school aide that we can use occasionally.	Apr 14, 2011 3:37 PM
6	I have no natural supports.	Apr 15, 2011 3:02 PM
7	My son's co-workers at his job at Walgreens provide natural supports so my son does not need a job coach.	Apr 16, 2011 9:07 AM
8	personal support worker thru HBW	Apr 16, 2011 6:45 PM
9	I receive a limited amount of help from church, neighbors, and friends - my closest friends are also caregivers of children with disabilities, which greatly limits the amount of support they can provide.	Apr 17, 2011 12:10 PM
10	I only have one daughter in town who can help me in an acute emergency, but I cannot rely on her for much support due to her own schedule (student).	Apr 18, 2011 9:24 AM
11	for socializing but not for caregiving	Apr 18, 2011 4:58 PM
12	support groups	Apr 19, 2011 6:11 PM
13	Direct Support Worker	Apr 20, 2011 8:43 AM
14	We have a few people that we pay once in a while out of pocket	Apr 21, 2011 12:53 PM
15	ACAP-adult community autism program, I get no support from any other of the above	Apr 21, 2011 7:36 PM

**Q8. Please provide comments and thoughts about any aspect of "natural supports" you would like to share. This is an anonymous poll.**

1	As the only parent providing support (physical, emotional, financial) for my child I also have to work full time, which limits the hours available for me to identify and develop natural supports. The "system" expects me to do this even though the "system" does not promote, locate, or train the public to see their role in the natural support process. Every time there's a gap in the service area, the "system" expects us to find and use "our natural supports" - even though they are nonexistent b	Apr 13, 2011 8:27 PM
2	we have no family in this state; the individual with the disability has no siblings; I've worked two jobs to keep the bills paid, so have no social supports	Apr 13, 2011 8:37 PM
3	Many people believe that since the disability happened in my family; it is up to my family to handle it. I think that is why there is such strong political support for "natural supports".	Apr 13, 2011 10:01 PM
4	while family and neighbors and friends have provided support in many ways it never involves directly caring for my son. My sister used to but ever since he pulled her hair she ha stopped and makes me feel guilty for asking	Apr 14, 2011 7:46 AM
5	My nearest immediate extended family is one hour away, which makes it only useful for occasional help, but certainly not helpful for daily care issues. And not at all reliable when the weather and roads are bad! It's hard to find friends who are willing or able to help take care of my daughter with their busy lives.	Apr 14, 2011 8:55 AM
6	It's a nice concept, but not everyone has families who can or want to assist.	Apr 14, 2011 9:00 AM
7	We have only ourselves on which to rely to care for our DD son (21) and DD daughter (18) who require 24/7 oversight. We live in a rural area, and it is left to DH and myself unless we can privately pay for respite (residential) care. Since we are in our 70's and there are no family members willing to assist, we do not know what will happen when we can no longer care for them. Unfortunately, the money for the trust has been spent over the years for medical care, therapies, attempted remediation, etc.	Apr 14, 2011 10:08 AM
8	Would have loved natural or unnatural support. I had no respite care, no competent after school care.	Apr 14, 2011 11:13 AM
9	In Oklahoma Natural Supports is used as a weapon to hurt and restrict services. It was told to a family who provided support in their home of an adult child with significant disabilities and needed to obtain paid nursing to administer a shot to use a neighbor to give the shot. When the family said they don't know the neighbors they were expected to go introduce themselves for the sole purpose to have them give the injection.	Apr 14, 2011 11:41 AM
10	I do not have anyone who is a 'natural support' for the kind of home health specific support needed. That is primarily paid support. But do use natural supports for social and work experiences	Apr 14, 2011 2:08 PM
11	It takes a lot of work to use "natural supports" ie friends, family to provide care to our son. They are willing but it takes a lot of planning and our son is not always comfortable with the care they provide. He is safe with them but they don't do things the way he is used to them being done, thus creating him to worry more.	Apr 14, 2011 3:37 PM

**Q8. Please provide comments and thoughts about any aspect of "natural supports" you would like to share. This is an anonymous poll.**

12	Everyone is too busy with work and maintaining their own health and families to offer us anything more than moral support! I have TWO DD young adults living at home. No family or friends EVER offer to provide respite!	Apr 15, 2011 7:29 AM
13	I have been blessed to live in an area that allows me (a parent) to be a paid caregiver. This has allowed my son, who has severe disabilities, with reliable, consistant, quality care! Of course, we have to stay on top of what's happening with legislation to be sure we don't lose this.	Apr 15, 2011 2:53 PM
14	I am a single parent with an adopted child. We have no family, I had to give up my career and work various parttime jobs to be available for my child who does not fit the day programs that are available. I do get Home Based funding which allows her to pay me for her training and assistance I give. Without that, I would have to put her into some form of housing(CILA) because I would have to make a living. I've lost my retirement security to keep her moving forward to being as independent as possible.	Apr 15, 2011 3:02 PM
15	Some of us don't have family to call upon, for many reasons. And I never wanted to burden my family members or "use them up"	Apr 15, 2011 5:10 PM
16	It was easier when he was a little guy. Then it was just "babysitting" even though he was 10 or 12 at the time. Once the puberty happened and he was trapped in the world of no age ( still likes things that 8-10 year olds like but is 22) there are no natural supports unless there is money or some reward provided. No one knows how to deal with him. People at church love him at church but there is no activities outside that venue. The people he works with love him but don't socialize with him outside of work. He still has some friends from school that will come to visit him if we have a party at our house or some venue in Denver, but no socializing or anything from them spontaneously or no inclusion in activities they are doing anyway. So tell me what are his natural supports and how do we access them??? I think money is the only language that is spoken in "natural support land"	Apr 15, 2011 8:52 PM
17	For me, a lot of it comes down to my daughter's willingness to let me and her dad out of the picture and to willingly receive assistance from others we may recruit when we're tied up otherwise.	Apr 15, 2011 9:24 PM
18	My husband and I live about 40 miles from family. Of the family, only my adult nephews are physically able to care for my son. He is a runner and needs assistance to toilet, feed himself, etc. When he lived with us (until 6 months ago) and we had an event where they live, we have taken my son to them for a a 2-4 hour visit. Other than that it was easiest to hire capable, willing people to spend time with him near home. Our son always does best with routine and familiar surroundings--I think it makes him feel safe, he knows what to expect. He doesn't crave variety.	Apr 16, 2011 5:52 AM
19	We have no extended family where we live. I have been informed as to where to find Personal Service Workers, but have not followed through at this time. I rely on my sons' older sister as a natural support. It would be a big step for me to reach out to other people as would be required to form a Microboard or on a smaller scale to find personal service workers.	Apr 16, 2011 9:07 AM
20	more avenues to obtain support is desperately needed!!!! I NEED HELP!!!!	Apr 16, 2011 12:37 PM
21	I developed natural supports on my own instead of a training	Apr 16, 2011 4:35 PM

**Q8. Please provide comments and thoughts about any aspect of "natural supports" you would like to share. This is an anonymous poll.**

22	Natural supports are only really available on a once in a while need, but noone in our 'natural support' system would be willing to take on full time care.	Apr 17, 2011 8:02 AM
23	It is difficult to find someone to provide natural supports due to uncontrolled seizures. Most people are not comfortable.	Apr 17, 2011 8:53 AM
24	I like the concept of natural supports, but it's much more difficult for some to develop than others. My adult daughter has very limited communication, several personal care/health needs, and unusual behaviors (very stressed by new situations/changes in routine; when really upset, may hurt herself or others) and we've moved a number of times due to job changes/layoffs. Her only sibling is in the military (out of state and soon to be deployed overseas); our nearest relatives are 10 hours away. Most of our friends are other families with children with disabilities, so their help is limited. It was much easier to find supports for her when she was a cute/quirky 3-year-old (her disorder has been regressive; she has many more needs now); a few people have offered help but I am not sure they could safely manage my daughter.	Apr 17, 2011 12:10 PM
25	I agree with the theory of natural supports, but it doesn't pan out in reality.	Apr 17, 2011 4:33 PM
26	My parents have both passed away. When they were alive, they were very helpful. My husband's family is not supportive at all and my only sister lives 2000 miles away. In an extreme emergency I could call a neighbor or friend but would not do so unless it was a very real emergency.	Apr 18, 2011 6:39 AM
27	Natural Support. That is a joke, right? What support?	Apr 18, 2011 6:41 AM
28	I haven't sought training on "natural supports". My family just isn't an option. Paternal grandparents are dead, even the child's father isn't the most helpful. For some families, there is just no such thing as having natural supports.	Apr 18, 2011 7:10 AM
29	with out my church I would have none..not sure where to look for them	Apr 18, 2011 7:26 AM
30	Just because someone has family members that they spend time with doesn't mean they will help. I know people who have family members that are not willing to help and some their family members are older and the are not able to help. And as I said some just won't help, they don't want to help or be bothered by what it takes to take care of someone with a disability. Just because they are your natural family doesn't mean they are compasionate, caring or giving. It may seem odd to those that have a wonderful natural support system but in some family's their own family is just as prejudice and uncaring as the rest of the world who really don't care about people with disabilitys or who are embarrassed by them.	Apr 18, 2011 7:55 AM
31	Afraid to use natural supports from Churches. All my older kids were sexually abused in a Church on a systematic level without my knowledge at the time.	Apr 18, 2011 8:01 AM
32	Three of my son's grandparents are deceased - and obviously not a support. The remaining Grandmother is 85 and unable to care for a person with a profound physical disability. My son's brother and sister are away at college and cannot help. His Aunts and Uncles all work full time and have families of their own to care for. Most importantly, my son with a disability has profound quadriplegia and our family and friends are "afraid" to take care of him for fear that they will "hurt themselves. I am not being pessimistic when I say - we have no "natural supports" Quadriplegia is not "natural"!	Apr 18, 2011 8:50 AM

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33	Only "natural" supports in case of an extreme emergency. Day-to-day "natural" supports are not available.	Apr 18, 2011 9:09 AM
34	I have almost no family in the area and of those that are here, only two could help IF there was an acute emergency. They are either working full time or are students. It's very frightening to know how little I have in natural supports in case of an emergency where I couldn't care for my daughter with special needs.	Apr 18, 2011 9:24 AM
35	While my mother was alive (she died 5 years ago) we had a WONDERFUL natural support in her. She had a close and loving relationship with our daughter, now 22, who has severe autism, and spent time with her minimum twice a week, doing favored activities that both enjoyed. She was a huge help to our family. Her death was a huge loss for many reasons, and we miss her dearly.	Apr 18, 2011 10:23 AM
36	I have nothing constructive to say. My mother taught me that if I have nothing good to say, I shouldn't say anything.	Apr 18, 2011 12:59 PM
37	I've never had anyone ask or suggest natural supports.	Apr 18, 2011 12:59 PM
38	I do not have natural supports because my family members do not live close by and not able to drive to help me.	Apr 18, 2011 2:54 PM
39	we only have one ( his sister- 18yr old) who is able to provide the "natural supoport",but to her decline in her health, that will stop in time. When the support is completly gone- I the Mom will be the one to support. Luckily, he is able to stay home for short period of tme along. This gives his dad to make it in when necessary.	Apr 18, 2011 3:56 PM
40	Our family is very small and lives all over the US so there is no "natural support" from that. Our church loves us but no one there has the training to deal with our son and his disabilities. Natural supports is a ridiculous term that people in the system have created to try to blame parents and families.	Apr 18, 2011 4:58 PM
41	So called "natural supports" are fine as a back-up, but as individuals with disabilities age, that support disappears. As parents/caregivers age, they have less and less access to true support for an adult child with significant challenges. This is NOT a solution, or a replacement, for paid community support from caregivers who are trained and understand the expectations of individuals with disabilities and their families who have a right to an independant life.	Apr 18, 2011 7:35 PM
42	"Natural Supports" is not an answer to the tremendous need for services for our children and young adults. Why not; we have had no training to find them, we do not have time in our days as most clients require 24/7 adult supervision, and there is no training for Natural Supports. Our children have complicated challenges.	Apr 19, 2011 5:18 AM
43	"Natural supports" is nothing more than a concept to me and a convenient excuse for the state to deny services for adults.	Apr 19, 2011 5:27 AM

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44	We are living in rough economic times. Outside of my immediate family, which includes 2 disabled adults, and 3 special needs children, I have one friend (who has one special needs child), who can occasionally offer a helping hand. I spend the majority of my day advocating for a free appropriate public education for my 3 school aged children. I try to spread out my time to be available for each child. I do find many teachable moments. I get very little sleep at night due to the latter. I have a college degree. Natural supports, for most families, is negligible.	Apr 19, 2011 10:28 AM
45	Natural supports are available to some but certainly not all disabled persons. If they have one person who is willing to be primary caregiver they are fortunate. If they have more than one they are the exception not the norm in my opinion.	Apr 19, 2011 10:57 AM
46	Natural supports to me are ME.. As an older parent of a 22 yr old aging out of school...there is NOTHING out there... Yes Special Olympics, community activities are great but what about employment, job coach, daily living coach ( before I die), quality transportation, therapists & someone to help coordinate it all ?	Apr 19, 2011 3:11 PM
47	This is a very interesting topic, especially given the aging population. Sometimes the most reliable supports are ones the family has to pay for.	Apr 19, 2011 4:20 PM
48	I receive good emotional support from church, friends, and support groups but very little practical support. Another question you might have asked is, what kinds of support do you receive from "natural supports."	Apr 19, 2011 6:11 PM
49	My 'natural support' is my own mother who is now over 65. She is the only other person who will watch my son with moderate autism. I am a single mom with no other help. I am also disabled and my mother doesn't drive. Natural supports only works with lots of family or if you have money and lots of time to train people.	Apr 19, 2011 10:02 PM
50	We have no family in the area my son has many medical needs ie ventilator. Oxygen etc most people are not capable of taking care of him without medical training	Apr 20, 2011 9:54 AM
51	I have been so busy and consumed with other aspects, I have never thought much about specifically working on this area called natural supports. My husband and I have just done it ourselves until recently we have hired a DSW.	Apr 20, 2011 10:28 AM
52	My parents deceased,grandparents deceased,brothers deceased,live in rural area,church does not support, then state agency says until I am incapacitated or dead forget about getting any help for a total care person. She is 22 1/2 has no speech,no hand use,wheelchairbound,has to be turned,set up and etc. TOTAL CARE!!!! SHAME ON THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA that will not help support with tax dollars.Instead tax dollars go for the providers to pay outrageous prices for products that the regular guy does not have to pay.	Apr 20, 2011 12:03 PM
53	Natural supports cannot and should not take the place of permanent 24/7 support for my daughter. At some point, I will no longer be able to care for her and there will be no one else who can step in. She also deserves the opportunity to live as independently as possible, but will require support from quality staff to achieve that lifestyle.	Apr 20, 2011 7:15 PM

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54	<p>Natural supports would be great, but they can not carry the responsibility, reliability and commitment that is needed to meet our son's unique needs. The person supporting him needs a level of expertise and must take care of his personal care needs, this is not something that we can push onto others that he is trying to have a typical relationship with. He needs supports to have relationships, not relationships based on him being the receiver of supports, that is devaluating and demoralizing. He's been fully included throughout his education and went to his proms with peers, but had an aide to support him, it would not be appropriate to change his personal friendships to watching him like a baby-sitter, or to take him to the bathroom or be responsible to feed him and assist him so he doesn't choke. This was brought this up at his ISP for when we hope he moves onto supported employment, but it would change the quality of his life. It would reduce and limit the skills and accountability of the people needed to support him, "if" we could find people in the first place. We don't have anyone who will spend time supporting him unless they are paid.</p>	Apr 21, 2011 12:53 PM
55	<p>Autism requires training and building a relationship;it is different than anything else out there : the lack of dynamic abilities is dishearting and not easy to understand for most "natural caregivers". Its hard to find respite much less professionals. This is a way of the goverment to rid themselves of the "burden" of taking care of our own. Why then pay taxes if its not for the good of the people? I pay school tax, but have no children in school-should I ask parents to find "natural teachers"? This natural implication is a farce.</p>	Apr 21, 2011 1:39 PM
56	<p>The families I know who have benefitted from natural supports all have healthy family members living close to them. I have been envious of them over the years because we live near no family members.This has been one of my greatest heartaches. I worked hard to find paid support persons to help with my son when he was ages 2 - 15. He is now 22 and I am struggling to to find any supports for him beyond his father and myself.</p>	Apr 21, 2011 1:46 PM
57	<p>My son is now 20 with high functioning autism. After becoming a single parent when he was four, I had to develop a strong network of support for him. A good example of one of his natural supports now is that he had an internship last school year. When summer came, they asked him to stay on. Since he had no transportation, he asked a co-worker if he could carpool and gave her money weekly for gas. And they liked him so much they extended his job through this school year too.</p>	Apr 21, 2011 5:30 PM
58	<p>as we've aged, the supports have dwindled. We need to work more to deal with increased costs of living and the college expenses from other children, vehicle and home costs - and more. We rarely get time for respite an evening out costs for a sitter --- in excess of \$100 commonly since my child weighs over 200 lbs. and can be aggressive. Natural supports? hah hah my parents and inlaws are in their 80's, my other children's educations and jobs took them 100's of miles away, I do not participate in organized religion any longer - the remaining congregants are older; and the disability support groups focus on families with youngsters. My own health is failing. If there is an expectation that natural supports exist that will fill in when funding fails --- it is a fantasy. I know of no instance of people with post high school aged children who have reliable natural supports.</p>	Apr 21, 2011 8:16 PM
59	<p>Family lives far away but is supportive. Friends and neighbors are supportive too but are very busy with own lives.</p>	Apr 22, 2011 7:59 AM

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60	Throughout the years tried to get help from natural supports and was told no. Offered to pay and still no.	Apr 22, 2011 8:28 AM
61	the current natural supports are going off to college and are aging. They have provided backup and emergency coverage when needed. Other "natural" supports become un-natural when used repeatedly and with intensity.	Apr 22, 2011 11:42 AM
62	My older, nondisabled daughter, who lives with us, helps out occasionally, but not all that often. She has begun working in a full-time, professional career, and often brings work home with her at the end of a long day. In her free time, she sees her friends. I do 99 percent of all the caregiving which my disabled daughter needs. I am getting tired!	Apr 22, 2011 1:51 PM
63	People like to help other people, but don't realize how much we need, but their time/effort/support is not unlimited either. It is unrealistic for me to expect natural supports to make major changes in my two sons (with profound and difficult disabilities) lives.	Apr 22, 2011 8:52 PM
64	we do not want to have to depend 24/7 on our "natural supports". they love our son but we do not and cannot expect them to care for him over their own families. Grandparents are getting old and will not be a source of support for much longer.	Apr 23, 2011 8:23 AM
65	My late husband and I never took credit for our son's natural supports. We were always convinced that they were serendipity and also due to the natural good heartedness and caring of these families as well as our son's loving nature and personality.	Apr 24, 2011 10:53 AM
66	I am a 58 year old single parent of a young man with Autism. There are no natural supports. My immediate family has no training to care for my son. Very little such training is even available. The only training would come from me. Training for non-natural supports is not out there either. It is ridiculous to think that "natural supports" is the answer as opposed to professional service providers. Some families simply don't have that kind of network or resources. Some families have aged out, and the parents are beginning to need supports as well as their child.	Apr 25, 2011 10:34 AM