In 2005, the Alliance for Full Participation held a national summit on the theme of Many Voices, One Vision. This consortium of national organizations in the developmental disability community was looking for priorities for the future. Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered said our answer is **Just Do It!**

Many have listened, some have taken action and we thank you. But we have talked enough and waited too long!

We have told you what is important to us. Get rid of the infamous and hurtful “r” word. Do not label us. We will not put up with the “r” word continuing as part of an organization’s name, even as initials.

If you are working with me and for me, then respect me.

We have been prepared enough. ASK the people who are living in institutions. Would you trade places?

Close institutions.

Get us real jobs.

Close sheltered workshops.

Give US the money to live OUR lives. Money following the person means it is OURS not the programs.

We have the right to make our own decisions with or without the support from others. **WE CAN RUN OUR LIVES.** Support our movement, **IT IS OURS.**

You receive millions of dollars in our name. We want to control this money, as we are the EXPERTS.

You must change. We have changed. We are taking the power. Walk the walk. Respect us or we will go on without you!