



AdvocateDadCO

#AdvocateDad | Western Colorado

WASHINGTON, D.C. | SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 3, 2026

Lived experience belongs at the policy table.

Rob and Isabelle Harris are bringing Western Colorado's experience with blindness, special education, transition, rural access, Medicaid, and disability systems directly to national education leaders and policymakers.

ROB HARRIS

Father, caregiver, CDE Certified IEP Facilitator, technology expert, and systems advocate working across blindness, special education, Medicaid/HCBS, and youth transition.

ISABELLE HARRIS

A 19-year-old Braille reader, assistive-technology user, white-cane traveler, and self-advocate whose experience should help shape the decisions affecting her future.

THREE WORKING ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

01

Access from day one

Timely Braille, accessible instructional materials, assistive technology, O&M, and Expanded Core Curriculum instruction.

02

Qualified professionals everywhere

A stronger pipeline of TVIs, COMS, interveners, and related specialists, including workable solutions for rural communities.

03

Policy built with people

Meaningful participation by disabled young people and families in policy design, implementation, evaluation, and oversight.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Isabelle is not going to Washington as a symbol. She is going as a young adult whose life contains evidence about what becomes possible when access is provided - and what is lost when systems delay, underestimate, or exclude. Rob connects that lived experience to system design, accountability, and practical change without speaking over Isabelle's voice.

"Systems should work for people - not require people to become experts just to survive them."

Rob Harris | AdvocateDadCO

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