

Dear Ms. Ward,

On behalf of the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorder, we offer our deepest appreciation for your years of extraordinary service to the State of Nevada and to autistic Nevadans across the lifespan. Your commitment has strengthened the supports and systems that children, youth, and adults with autism rely on, and your work has meaningfully improved the lives of countless individuals and families in every corner of our state.

Throughout your tenure, you have embodied a rare blend of expertise, compassion, and steadfast determination. You have helped guide Nevada through complex policy landscapes, advocating for services and structures that honor dignity, maximize independence, and create real opportunities for autistic people at every stage of life. Your leadership has pushed our state toward a more inclusive, responsive, and forward-thinking system of care.

The Commission is especially grateful for your lifelong dedication to elevating the voices of those too often overlooked from young children newly entering services to adults seeking equitable access, meaningful supports, and pathways to community inclusion. Your work reflects a deep understanding that autism does not end at childhood, and that our systems must grow, adapt, and remain accountable to the needs of individuals throughout their lifespan. Because of your efforts, Nevada is better prepared to meet that challenge.

Please accept our sincere gratitude for the enduring impact of your service. We wish you continued success in all that you pursue, and we hope you remain connected to the community you have championed with such heart and integrity.

With appreciation,

Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorder