

6. PARENTS AFTER US COMMITTEE

The Organization: Parents After Us Committee

The Parents After Us Committee (Comitato Genitori Dopo di Noi) is a dedicated group of families advocating for the rights of adult children with severe disabilities. Working in partnership with the Fondazione Italiana Verso il Futuro Onlus, the committee ensures that individuals with disabilities can access stable residential projects outside their family nucleus. Their mission is centered on the principles of Dopo di Noi (After Us)-securing a dignified, autonomous future for vulnerable individuals once their parents are no longer able to provide care.

The Challenge: Administrative Hurdles in Disability Funding

In 2021, the committee faced a critical financial crisis due to bureaucratic delays in the disbursement of state funds allocated under Law 112/16. Although the Municipality of Rome had approved and funded housing projects for the entire financial year, individual local municipalities refused to pay arrears for the first eight months of the year. This administrative deadlock left families to cover the costs of continuous care without the allocated state support, threatening the stability of essential residential services for persons with severe disabilities.

PBI and Independent Lawyer's Pro Bono Support

PBI acted as the link between the committee and the specialized legal expertise needed to challenge these administrative delays. PBI facilitated a match with an independent lawyer from its network, who provided 30 hours of specialized out-of-court assistance:

- **Regulatory Examination:** Conducted a deep-dive analysis of Law 112/16 and the specific management decisions of Rome Capitale to identify the legal obligation for fund disbursement.
- **Administrative Audit:** Investigated the discrepancies between different municipal offices to understand why funds were being withheld despite being officially allocated.
- **Formal Advocacy:** Drafted and dispatched formal legal correspondence to the relevant administrations, summarizing the foundation's difficulties and demanding the immediate release of funds for the entire 2021 financial year.

The Impact: Restoring Financial Stability for the Vulnerable

Through PBI's coordination and the rigorous legal intervention of the Lawyer, the Parents After Us Committee gained the professional voice necessary to navigate complex municipal bureaucracy. The intervention provided a clear legal pathway for the Fondazione Italiana Verso il Futuro to claim the funds owed, ensuring that the residential projects remained solvent. Most importantly, this support protected the continuity of care for the beneficiaries, ensuring that some of Rome's most vulnerable citizens did not lose their homes due to administrative oversight.