

Alison Barkoff

Alison Barkoff is the Director of Advocacy at the Bazelon Center. She works on policy and litigation related to community integration and inclusion of people with disabilities, including Olmstead, Medicaid, employment, housing, and education. From 2010 to 2014, she served as Special Counsel for Olmstead Enforcement in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. In that position, she led the Division's efforts to enforce the right of individuals with disabilities to live, work and receive services in the community. Under her leadership, the Division issued its first Olmstead guidance and was actively involved in Olmstead litigation across the country, including numerous cases culminating in statewide system reform settlement agreements. During her time with the federal government, Ms. Barkoff also worked with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on finalizing rules governing Medicaid-funded community-based services and with the Department of Labor on implementation of its new home care rule in Medicaid-funded disability service systems. Prior to her time with the government, she worked at the Bazelon Center and at other public interest organizations on Olmstead enforcement, disability discrimination, Medicaid, employment, and special education cases. She also served as a judicial clerk for then-Second Circuit Judge Sonia Sotomayor and for Southern District of New York Judge William Pauley. She is a graduate of Cornell University and Emory University School of Law.