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Subject: 2014 Empowers SC Families!

This Week @ The Forum

August 9, 2013

**WATCH** Arizona "parent advocates" Kathy & Christo Visser tell the amazing story of their Jordan, who suffers from cerebral palsy... and how education freedom is changing his life.

Jordan Visser benefits from an Arizona Empowerment Account, an education innovation that gives his parents access to 90 percent of the funding he is entitled to under the Arizona school funding formula. Children like Jordan who have special needs or are in failing schools, along with children in active-duty military families or adopted from the foster care system are eligible.

This is also an exciting year for education innovation in South Carolina! Lawmakers took an important step forward for South Carolina students with disabilities, passing a tax credit for donations made to scholarship organizations to help parents of special-needs students pay for eligible schools that best meet the unique needs of their child.

But these scholarships will have to be approved again next year to continue. Which is why, [with your support](#), Palmetto Policy Forum is researching and educating on how these policies unleash new hope and opportunities for families across our state.

### Tell Us Your Story!

South Carolina's scholarships for student with special needs will roll out in January. Do you know a student who could benefit from this opportunity? How would more education options help you and your family?

[CLICK HERE](#) and tell us your story!

## 2014 Empowers S.C. Parents

Twelve private schools have already been approved to enroll special-needs students eligible for tuition grants made possible by South Carolina's scholarship choice program. And more are in the pipeline! Find the latest information on this exciting opportunity here: [www.independented.org](http://www.independented.org)

[READ MORE](#)

## Expanding Education Options

Every child deserves the chance for a good education and providing parents with options is key. One new idea from Arizona: Education Savings Accounts that give parents control over the funds that the state spends on their child in a public school, allowing them to use their child's funds for a variety of education-related services and products.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## MUST READ: "Love & Betrayal"

If you don't read any other art  
take time to read this one. This  
about!

"So let's start talking about love.  
things the way only people who  
things. Let's talk about improv  
neighborhoods, and about creating  
prosperity only loving and passiona  
create.

*"And let's start talking about betrayal. Let's talk about Detroit. About kids trapped in bad inner-city and rural schools. And deficits and how those deficits are stealing the future from our children."* [READ MORE](#)

We rely on the generous, tax-deductible contributions of South Carolinians who share our vision for a free and prosperous Palmetto State. *Please make your most generous contribution today!*

*Palmetto Policy Forum is an independent, nonpartisan educational foundation committed to policy entrepreneurship, consensus-building and transformative solutions to South Carolina's policy challenges.*

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