

Dear Governor's Committee of Human Services,

Becoming legally blind just over a year ago has most of all meant a loss of independence and difficulty doing everyday tasks. This has improved thanks to the specialized services provided by BESBE. They have given me hope and what kind of life is there without that? My work world previous to vision loss was about helping disabled seniors with daily livings tasks and driving them to appointments and shopping. Jerry Doody of BESBE helped me to transition into the receiving end of those services, a place I never thought I'd be at 52 years old. Nancy Meyerson improved daily tasks with aids and great teaching instruction, John Waikalonus helped to develop orientation and mobility skills with a white cane, While this was a skill I resisted at first, I came to realize how valuable it is. John Farrington is working with me on going back to work and secured services that have improved my confidence. Please keep this agency in tact as I along with many others would be lost and alone without them.

Sincerely, Deborah J. Reed