

Testimony of Pam Hunt
Appropriations Committee
February 15, 2013

Senator Harp, Representative Walker and members of the Appropriations Committee:

I stand before you this evening to ask you not the funding that CLRP needs in order to continue to support the people of this state. This much needed program is a Godsend to most, and a last ditch effort to others, in advocating for those that cannot advocate for themselves in situations such as community rights, housing, laws and policies to protect rights, and psychiatric inpatient hospital issues. The people that are helped by this agency are low income individuals that have nowhere else to go and do not have the financial means to obtain help on their own.

I would also like for you to look at the BIGGER picture, instead of just the budget. Every single person that is and can be helped through Connecticut Legal Rights Project, is a person that could potentially become a self-sufficient tax paying citizen which in turn would be able to help others. The idea that CLRP and the help that they offer can be considered a cyclical venture and not just a self-serving agency should give you pause to sit back and think about the good that comes out of their agency and that reciprocity is attainable.

I stand before you as one who has utilized their services and also, to let you see the faces of those that are helped or in need of this type of help and to say, that we are not just numbers on a page, or a budget amount, but real life human beings with situations and circumstances that cry out for and agency such as Connecticut Legal Rights Project.

Thank you.

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