

to Creb

2<sup>nd</sup> testimony in february urging you to not cut the DMHAS funding

Janet Auster

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Dear legislators , congressmen and women, the governor and the president,

I am here tonight to urge you to not shut down programs so in valuable to myself and to us all.

SHepherd Park , Advocacy unlimited, Chrysalis Center, and keep the promise are THE ROCK AND SUSTENance and shield for the elderly the youth of Conecticut,the disabled at any age and the psychiatrically disabled.

You might be asking, along with many others, what changes have you made in these programs, none right?

WRONG.I came into shepherd park a smoker and for 12 years I haven't smoked. And now Shepherd park is completely smoke free. And when I walk around on the grounds I am enjoying myself and not huffing and puffing or scared that someone is goig to poison or kill me with secondary smoke.

Just recently Au came to my rescue . I didn t know how to get my book published that I had worked so hard on but they insisted that I could do it. They even got one of their former directors to call me.She shook me up and assured me I could do it if I paid a lot of money and didn't expect any money in return. So to make along story short I wrote a book of nine poems called signing and marched to kinkos after the snow storm and had five copies modified and changed.

The books are now on line halelughia, for free. I so hope you will all read it.

Chrysalis and keep the promise have also fostered my growth and empowered me as a writer and advocate.And im sure that any other consumer you ask about them would say the same thing.

Im holding a copy of the book I just wrote in my hand,and I am not lying to you.Please join us in our quest for honest open coerageous free thinking. We have already done something very signifigant all that we are asking that you keep letting us do it in loving supportive environments.