

**Dawn Marie Williams**

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**Subject:** RE: STRIVE Funding

**From:** Karen Michelson [mailto:[klm3208@yahoo.com](mailto:klm3208@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2013 11:07 PM  
**To:** Dawn Marie Williams  
**Subject:** STRIVE Funding

Dear Mrs. Williams,  
Here is the attached letter. Please let me know if you receive it. I hope STRIVE gets the funding it needs to keep it going.

Thank you,

Karen Michelson

February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of keeping the STRIVE program in the Department of Labor Budget. The STRIVE program has been a staple in the community for over twelve years, and statewide has served thousands of individuals. I personally graduated the program in 2/23/12, and can tell you firsthand that I would not be as successful as I am today without the assistance of STRIVE.

With an extremely lean budget, and a proven track record of success, it would be foolish to cut a program that yields such high results. I understand that many tough decisions need to be made, and I do not envy your position. With a low cost, high impact program such as STRIVE, I believe it would be extremely unwise to cut their funding. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep STRIVE in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me at the information below with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

Karen Michelson

Karen Michelson  
22 Kendall Green Drive  
Milford, CT 06461  
(203) 415-8941