

The State of Ct has proposed a new waiver, cut and paste so it's identical to the current waiver except for a few changes...and then made a plan to provide an avenue to jump over the people on the current wait list, I am morally outraged.

As a mother who has watched her son go the precipice of death, and be pulled back, fighting to regain each and every function of his mind, body and life –My son lived, I knew the second he decided to stay with us, and I knew my job as his mother was different from that moment on from what it had been before.

I know what it's like to fight for services, I know what it's like to put my child in an institution because we, without help, could no longer take care of the intense needs of his rehabilitation – I know what it's like to go visit him and walk past him as he is unrecognizable to me due to the massive drugs they have put him on – it's not about rehab in those places – its about control. My heart breaks, for every mother out there who has a child waiting for services – believe me when I tell you, they are **DESPERATE** Just because the DSS wait list shows that people are "in the community" does not mean they are receiving services and are not in crisis or at great risk.

Please think about this, what will happen to disabled, brain jured children when they become adults and you have destroyed the opportunities of services for them. Or if

your husband, your wife, your adult child walked out the door, is in an accident that puts them in a coma. Will you give up and say – “gosh, no worries, just send them to the nursing home”.

I sat and watched some of your faces at the public hearing on the budget when one gentleman testified, I believe he was in his mid forties. He is living in a nursing home because the opportunities for him to be supported in the community have already been taken away by CT with some previous “cost saving” legislation. I could tell you wanted to help him, he had an 80 year old room mate and he said he was going to do whatever it took to get out of the nursing home. It sounded like he was willing to put himself at great risk to do this, but it seemed clear to me, you felt you couldn't help him – in THIS case, it's not too late, You do NOT have people in wheelchairs begging you for help, to get services, why? Because the people on the wait list still have hope, and the people who have services want the current waiver to stay in place, be expanded as we have suggested in our options and not be closed and capped – but I promise you, when those on the wait list get the call that they are no longer eligible to go on a Waiver and ALL HOPE is stolen from them – because you passed Waiver II, I promise you, they WILL be in front of you. Do not pass Waiver II, you and I don't know who they are yet, but you soon will, and you will soon see the faces of those whose hope you have stolen, begging for help because you passed ABI Waiver II.

The State of CT has written a new Waiver with the intent to give preferential treatment to disabled people who save the state the most money and discriminate against members of a specific brain injury population who do not save the state money. This is immoral and a significant civil rights violation.

Ct has also targeted a specific population of brain injury survivors and sentenced them to a life in nursing homes, or to only be able to live in the community if families care for them, for the rest of their lives.

If you pass Waiver II DSS has clearly stated they are capping and closing Waiver I – that is the death bell for Waiver I – the financial formula will change as higher costs saving people go off, you are destroying it if you approve Waiver II.

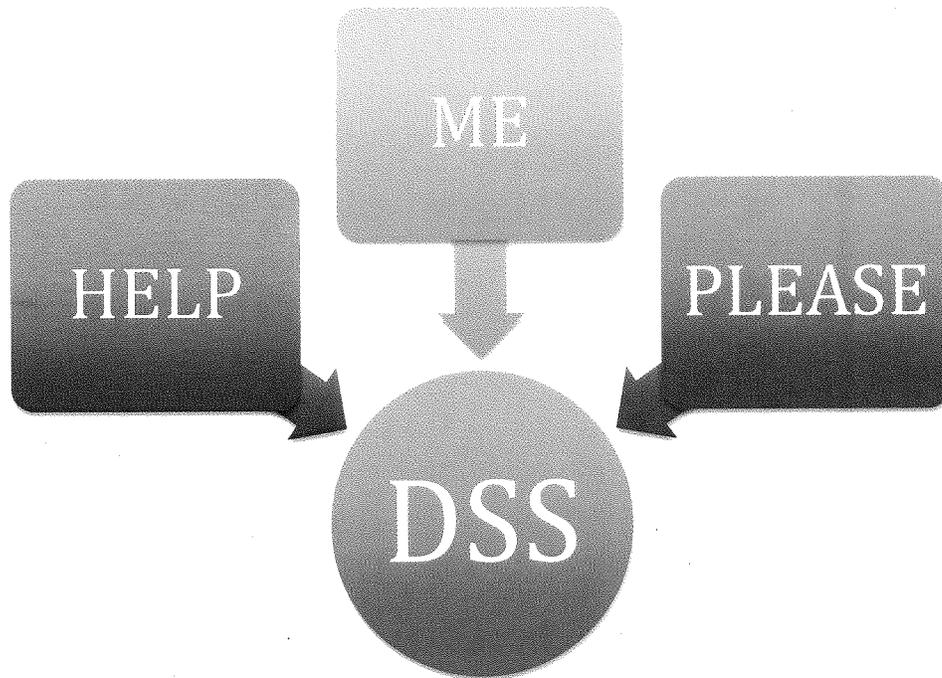
Respectfully,

Elaine Burns

Mom of Brain Injury Survivors Ryan Cornell

President

Ct Brain Injury Support Network



My name is William, I am a brain injury survivor, I have been waiting to get services from Dept. of Social Services on the ABI Waiver for more than three years. Now they wrote a new program, and Governor Malloy, Department of Social Services and Commissioner Bremby have decided they can save lot's of money by giving those services to someone besides me. So even though I qualify for the new program, and am number 5 on the wait list, 50 people are getting services before me because Governor Malloy can save more money on them. I don't matter, only money does.

DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES WAITING LINE



I am suffering, my family is struggling, they do not understand my injury or how to help me and cannot take care of me much longer. I am deteriorating, sometimes I feel suicidal because I don't understand why I am not good enough to get services and help I so desperately need. I wish I could save the state money like those other 50 people, but I don't, so I am being thrown away.

There are many others like me, and the number will grow.

PLEASE HELP ME!

Thank you, William

**How YOU Can Help
William AND MANY OTHER Brain Injury
Survivors!!!**

CT BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT NETWORK

**CAMPAIGN TO SAVE BRAIN
INJURY SURIVORS!!**

**IT'S SIMPLE! WHEN GOVERNOR MALLOY
SENDS YOU YOUR "EXTRA" \$55.00 TAX
REFUND THIS YEAR, DONATE IT TO THE:
Save Brain Injury Survivors
Fund!!**

**THE FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT:
DIME BANK
NEW LONDON, CT**

**OR YOU CAN DONATE AT THE PUBLIC RALLY!!
WHEELCHAIRS CIRCLING THE
CAPITOL!!**