

From: Jackie Russell <jr.shorelinewellnesscenter@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 10:24 AM
To: HSTestimony
Subject: S.B. No. 408

To Whom It May Concern:

As a MSW graduate level intern at Shoreline Wellness Center, LLC in West Haven, CT, there has been a huge deficiency in supplying the mental health needs of Husky C and/or D clients. Since my time at SWC, I have completed several intakes for Husky C and D clients that are later informed SWC cannot provide treatment because the State is not willing to reimburse clinical staff in private settings over the age 21. In other words, the only practitioners that are being reimbursed for HUSKY C or D in CT are clinicians which work in large agencies where the waiting time can exceed 5-6 months. This is unfortunate especially since many of the clients that call present with a range of mental health concerns such as: borderline personality disorder, severe depression, schizophrenia, and so on. Each time I have to a refer client, I feel I am doing them a huge disservice and the State should too. Besides the fact that this makes Husky C and/or D clients feel isolated, it also makes it where they are untreated and unequal to those that have other insurances like Anthem, United Health Care and Husky A. Please change this. I am on the forefront and I see what affects this has on the individual when they are declined and how it can impact our communities if individuals go untreated.

Sincerely,

A concerned student and future MSW graduate.