

TESTIMONY OF AMY KING BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS SUB COMMITTEE  
Department of Rehabilitative Services Budget (DORS)  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, FEBRUARY 27, 2015

My name is Amy King and I am a consumer of Independence Unlimited. Many, many years ago this agency helped me with several things, they had no prior relationship with me but this did not stop them from helping me. One of the issues involved a major financial problem which they jumped through many hoops and accomplished within that very day. They did this with no judgment of me, did not say no, or that we can't do this. This had a huge impact on my life and ability to remain independent.

Again I contacted IU recently; they jumped in immediately to help me in multiple ways. They have been there through every step of the way, are there for me to talk to, to coordinate my needs, and to make sure that I am safe. I either have or will have what I need to stay as independent as possible and in the way I choose what is best for me.

Previous I had been a very functioning person who was able to hold down a job and was able to be very independent in my life to now someone who almost always is in a chair and in tremendous pain. As I have become more and more disabled, I began to for various reason fall through the cracks. IU is stopping this from happening. They are my advocates, my knowledge base, and my safety net. I again have hope in my life, my depression has lifted, and I can think once again about how I can rebuild my life bit by bit. This is due to the wonderful support from the advocates at IU. There is a future for me if I continue to be able to get the help I need. Please do not take away my future or my hope. These services they provide are done in a caring, pro-active, non-judgmental way. No one can have a quality of life in a vacuum please do not force me back into one.

Thank you Independence Unlimited and thank you for allowing me to share a snippet of my story with you.