

My name is Jayvardhan Pandit. I live in the town of Mystic and I vote. I am a long-time, close friend of the Wicker's family and have had many opportunities to see first-hand how the various services provided by DDS to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities DO make an incredibly meaningful difference in their life and that of their families.

Their son, Mathieu, who is severely autistic, is in a residential program. The Wickers are very proud of Mathieu living his life with respect and dignity in a nurturing environment and contributing in his own way to society thanks to programs that DDS funds. As a member of a society that prides itself in being caring and giving I am appalled by the cuts in the DDS budget that ran contrary to what America stands for.

Enough is enough. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities desperately need these services. Stop the cuts to DDS.

Thank you,

Jayvardhan Pandit