

To Whom It May Concern,

As a psychiatry resident at Yale School of Medicine, I was shocked to hear of the proposed drastic funding cuts. I am spending a portion of my training working at CMHC. This facility is a safety net, providing care for some of Connecticut's most severely ill patients, many of whom have extremely limited financial resources. The facility is constantly at capacity and with present funding there are long waiting lists to obtain care. In addition, CMHC is a leading center for valuable and practical research to help us improve care and outcomes for patients with mental illness across the country. These funding cuts would be disastrous for the state of Connecticut. If CMHC is to be gutted, as the funding cuts would effectively accomplish, where would our patients go? Given limited access to care they would likely flood our already strained emergency departments, shelters and jails. Many of these individuals who are currently stable with treatment would likely face untoward outcomes trying to survive on our city streets. I strongly urge you to reconsider these cuts, not only for the safety of our patients, but also for the health of our community.

Sincerely,  
David Grunwald, MD, MSc