

Peter & Laurie Bachmann

88 Cains Hill Road

Ridgefield CT 06877

Re: Maya Julie Bachmann DOB 7.17.1989

Necessary Funded Services

Dear Mr. Frey or To Whom it May Concern,

Having watched the state of our CT economy and hearing about the proposed budget cuts to Disability Services, WE ARE VERY CONCERNED. We attended a meeting with Ability Beyond last night --the agency that serves our 26 year old daughter, Maya--and learned about massive further proposed budget cuts to the budget that, in enacted, will directly impact persons with disabilities including Maya. This is unacceptable.

Our daughter Maya is intellectually disabled. She lives at home with us. She attends the Atlas Program (job training) at Ability Beyond. Maya has been on the DDS housing waiting list for more than 5 years.

That said, at 26 years old Maya needs housing that she can call her own, NOW. Each of us have this right. Maya cannot live by herself due to her limited intellectual capacity but she does indeed have the right to housing and learning to live independently. IT IS IMPERITIVE that Maya be supported by the State NOW in a living situation independent from her parents. She needs to learn how to live independently before we are no longer able to provide that support or worse, when we are no longer alive. The only way this will happen if housing dollars are made available NOW.

I had a total hip replacement surgery in the fall of 2015 and my wife had a total knee replacement surgery in the spring of 2015. We are not getting younger and Maya needs support now.

We understand that the State pays \$365,000 per person per year at the Southbury Training Center. This number is unbelievable. Allowing our kids the opportunity to find living situations that are more independent would likely cult these costs including other services by 2/3.

We need your voice (and our voice to be heard) in our State government to not cut these funds for the sake of our most vulnerable children. Please vote no to these budget cuts.

Thank you.



Peter & Laurie Bachmann