

and I are opposed to cutting the DDS budget by \$59 million dollars.

Our old daughter has received both residential and day program supports since 2008. During this timeframe, we have witnessed many changes in funding and services that are a direct result of the millions of dollars already cut from the DDS budget.

Due to creating DDS waiting lists, cuts to the DDS budget have created private provider waiting lists making it very difficult for DDS and families to find a private provider willing and able to provide services.

One of the issues with finding a residential agency is the fact that there is no system to help facilitate the process of finding compatible housemates. Families have to rely on their DDS case manager to find an agency who is searching for housemates. We believe a system needs to be developed to assist families in finding compatible housemates.

It is becoming just as challenging. Day programs are having difficulty developing new work opportunities and accommodating new workers. Without funding, how can private agencies be expected to grow to accommodate people coming off the waiting list?

Our family is finding it extremely difficult to exercise portability of funds when it becomes necessary to find new placements within the DDS system.

We have concerns whether the existing system can accommodate people coming off the waiting list as well as meet the needs of those who are lucky enough to be in the DDS system.

We vehemently oppose any further cuts to the DDS budget.

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Having difficulties finding agencies will to contract with them now, how will they be able to provide services for those coming off the waiting list?

We have tried to act on recommendations by our day provider agency to find a new day program for our son. We have not been able to find any agency willing to