

Hello, My name is Maura Lane. I live in Moretown Vt. My son Phillip Kellem has Down Syndrome. He is 43 years old.

In life, he has been denied many things from sports teams, college, a career, as well as casual and life-long friendships, Living in a Home Care Provider's residence, isolates him and, as the provider changes every few years, his existence is not only lonely but very disrupted. We both would welcome the opportunity for him to live in a forever home with other adults having similar needs. As I age, I worry the day will soon come when I am unable to problem solve and help manage his needs. My fervent hope is that a safe and supported home, shared with friends, is not yet another thing Phillip will be denied. Please support \$10.82 M for the implementation of three pilot planning projects under Act 186, and the continued annual development of service supported housing for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities until there is sufficient housing.

When the Brandon Training School closed 30 years ago, Governor Dean said, 'I'm proud to maintain the commitment of the state to the very kind of services that we still owe to the population that was once at Brandon and is now in the community. We will continue to assure that individuals receive support & services; We will continue to assure that those services meet acceptable levels of quality; We will continue to assure that persons receiving the services are free from abuse and neglect or mistreatment; To assure that the folks taking care of the people needing these services have adequate training & support.

So, our commitment does not end with the closing of this institution.'

That promise has not been kept. Please support \$10.82M for Implementation of the 3 Pilot grant projects, and Annual development of Service-Supported housing for adults with I/DD. These are our most vulnerable citizens. Please do not abandon them.

Thank You, Maura Lane