

From: Carl Hirth [carlhirth@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 1:07 PM
To: Theresa Utton; Rebecca Buck
Subject: Proposed \$4.3 cut in DS budget

Good morning

I strongly oppose any reduction in services for Vermonters with developmental disabilities. My son Nathan is presently served well by Families First in Windham County, in which he has maintained a cleaning job for over 15 years. He is also active in our community in a special arts program. As a 38 year old, he has thrived in the Brattleboro community. However when spending cuts occur, his services have been drastically cut and real care has suffered in the past.

How can the Governor last year state one of his three top priorities is “protecting the most vulnerable” Vermonters and then for 2019 proposes to cut their services. And this is after previous cuts of \$14 million over the last decade! Where will it end? Vermont is known for many good things, among them is decent services for DD citizens. IF Vermont will continue to provide efficient and good services for “the more vulnerable Vermonters”, this proposed budget cut must be stopped. I trust that other ways can be found to make up for budget shortfalls. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad