

Rebecca Buck

From: Mary Gyori <mary.gyori.vt@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Rebecca Buck
Subject: Developmental Services Budget

Hello,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$4.3 million budget cut in developmental services.

My name is Mary Gyori and I live Brattleboro. My son, Sasha, was one of the 'miracle 2 lb preemies' born in 1980 who survived and we all cheered about the miracle. What we didn't know then was that each time his lungs collapsed he had more brain damage. He's now 37 years old, healthy as a horse, living each day with developmental disabilities. Sasha works 3 part-time jobs because of the 24/7/365 support he receives from Families First in Brattleboro (which runs efficiently on a lean budget). In Sasha's mind everything costs a dollar. However, we know that his developmental services case manager can make more money as a supermarket shift manager, but values serving vulnerable people like Sasha much more. That's a tough, community-minded choice to make when you need to feed your own family! We need to support the people who provide daily support to our citizens with developmental disabilities.

Right now Sasha and others living long lives with developmental disabilities need your support. PLEASE do not cut any more funding from developmental services.

Respectfully, Mary Gyori
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