

My name is Linda Bryant and I live in the City of Rutland, Vermont. I receive SSI (Supplemental Security Income) as my only source of income. I've faced many health difficulties in my life—both physical and mental. My health care coverage is through Medicaid, which only allows a maximum of \$500 a year for dental work.

Currently my oral health situation is that I need extensive dental care, including dentures.

I am proud of my life's achievements and wish to pursue activities that include public speaking. I am very aware that my smile and ability to clearly deliver my words creates a first impression. This is vital to my self-esteem and sincerity in speaking. The loss of teeth, however, has changed the sound of my speech, affected my confidence and my outward impression on the public. The lack of proper dental care is negatively affecting my ability to achieve my goals.

Please consider additional dental coverage for Medicaid.