

To whom it may concern,
My name is Liliane Savard and I am a resident of Montpelier Vermont.

I have been a physical therapist working in schools and doing research for the past 25 years. I am seeing first hand how the state is failing my former students and their aging parents as these students are now adults with no choices for where to live and access the level of services they need.

These families and their communities have supported these now adults individuals with disabilities with creative solutions but as they age, many are in very critical and dangerous situations. Parents who are full-time caregivers with heart conditions, who are stroke survivors, with very few people who could take over and care for their adult child if something happened to them.

Please support the DDHI's request for \$10.82M for implementation of the 3 Pilot Grant Projects, established by Act 186, to develop new and innovative housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Taking care of our most vulnerable community members so they have dignity and can be part of our community is critical.

Think about your friend, cousin, coworker who is full-time caregiver for a person with a severe form of autism or developmental disability. Their greatest fear is that their loved one will not be safe after they can no longer care for them.

Sincerely,

Liliane Savard