

To Whom it may Concern,

I've recently learned that Vermont doesn't have a plan in place for housing adults with developmental disabilities and moderate to high support needs here in Vermont.

I have a 34 year old nephew who has Down Syndrome and even though he does not live in Vermont, I know the fear and anxiety my brother has with Shane's fate after he passes.

Where are these people supposed to go?

We must address this issue here in Vermont. The State of Vermont should lead the way in how they care for these individuals. There are other populations that receive repeated funding that cost far more than it would to house these folks. Our adults with developmental disabilities family members have HCBS funding provided by Medicaid for services, as well as entitlement benefits (SSA benefits). This makes them more stable long-term tenants.

It is a shame that the people that are most vulnerable receive the least attention and services from the State.

I SUPPORT \$10.82 million for the implementation of the pilot planning grant housing begun by Act 186, and I support developing a pipeline for funding the annual development of stable, service-supported housing for adults with developmental disabilities.

Please do the right thing.

Thank you,