

Dear Vermont Legislature,

I am the parent and guardian of a son with Down syndrome and autism (pervasive developmental delay). Patrick is 31 years old, lives with us, and requires 24/7 care and supervision. He will never be able to live independently. We are concerned about his future housing and support once we are no longer able to care for him.

I am writing today to ask for your support (\$9 million) in implementation of the three pilot grant projects and annual development of service-supported housing for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The State of Vermont needs to develop 602 new units of service-supported housing for individuals who, like my son, have I/DD.

Please help us to create a secure future for our son and others by provision of the necessary funding for support of service-supported housing in the FY2025 Budget.

Thank you,

Terence Lynch