

Hello,

My name is Nicole Fournier Grisgraber. I am the executive director at CarePartners Adult Day Center, in St. Albans Vermont. Our services include a safe, encouraging environment where adults can come during the day and receive assorted services like help with medications, showers, social and therapeutic services, nutritious meals, foot care, and valuable social interactions.

Choices for Care funding (CFC) 35% makes up the largest percentage of our participants while Moderate Needs Funding (MNG) 19% is second.

Though we appreciate the reimbursement rate we are given please know it does not cover the cost of the services we provide. In our building it falls short by about 20% to cover expenses on top that we struggle to pay employees a livable wage and offer the benefits that we would like to.

We are currently at 65% of capacity. What is holding us back to being at full capacity is absenteeism, approval processes, and transportation challenges. In the last 6 months we have lost over \$100k to absenteeism alone. Transportation is the other challenge; we have had to turn down at least a half dozen people because we can't get buses to them. Right now, it is easier to get someone to CarePartners from Chittenden County than the county we reside in, which is Franklin County. We LOVE the case management teams from other agencies, they do an outstanding job though they are often overwhelmed so it can be challenging to get someone approved for programming, especially MNG which makes it hard to also utilize available funding. One individual this year was 4 months!

Knowledge is power so discussion like this are good. With that said, thank you for making time to hear from Mary and I today and your dedication to Vermonters.

Please feel free to come visit our Adult Day site when you are in the area.

**54 Active Participants -CFC- 35%- MNG- 19%- DS Waiver- 22% -Private Pay/Sliding Fee- 20% Day Health- 4%**