

From: [Anita M Donahue](#)
To: [JWMHS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Continued level of funding for Developmentally Disabled
Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 8:35:12 PM

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

We are submitting testimony in support of current funding levels for Developmental Disabilities Services. We have seen first hand the effectiveness of Partnerships in Community Living in recruiting and training Direct Support Professionals. Retaining staff will be impossible if the partnership with the State is not reliable. The supportive care and services provided by Partnerships in Community Living are irreplaceable, so making sure they can continue to function is critical.

Our daughter has been supported by Partnerships in Community Living for 30 years, and lives with two housemates in Salem. She has multiple disabilities; deaf, blind, autistic, and intellectually impaired, yet has been able to mature into a well-balanced individual. She is making contributions everyday in her community, because of the care provided by Direct Support Professionals, and other supportive services provided to her by Partnerships in Community Living. She has a job she enjoys, in which her employer considers her a valuable team member. She has housemates that are a good fit. She enjoys throwing parties, and going to community music events and dances. A normal life for a single, 46 year old woman.

This means Partnerships in Community Living has created a positive multiplier effect through the services they provide. It is not just our daughter who benefits, all who know and depend on her are better as a result of the investment in her capabilities. She is currently taking an interest in learning to read, something we never would have expected.

Thank you for recognizing the gains that have and will continue to be made, for everyone in the State of Oregon, with continued funding levels for Developmental Disabilities Services.

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