



Marilyn DiTota  
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December 19, 2016

Dear Governor Malloy,

As a parent of a special needs child it is my request that the five year plan for DDS include the following:

**1.) That all group homes be privatized and institutions managed by DDS be closed due to lack of adequate care given to residents as cited in the following report:**

It was reported by the Office of Inspector General (Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, May 2016 #A-01014-00002) that DDS did NOT comply with requirements of critical incident reporting at a staggering rate of 99%. This in fact due to the "revision of DDS's definition of "severe injury.

**2.) That the wait list(s) be revised to represent the true number of those in need and a plan devised for total elimination of the list(s) within FIVE YEARS.**

In 2014 There were 3,553 clients on the DDS wait list (Connecticut Health Investigative Team, May 2014) with a projected additional 200 new individuals per year expected (Connecticut Waiting List & Projections by robin E. Cooper, September 23, 2008). From 2014 to present the reported list given by DDS drastically decreases due to restructuring of criteria, not by the actual number of individuals in need. If calculated according to the old criteria the list is well over 4,000 not the approximate 2,000 now stated.

**3.) That all savings accumulated from closing all institutions be kept in the DDS budget and not be diverted to the General Fund, instead the savings used for funding community based supports.**

It is imperative that DDS stand up and acknowledge the severe mishandling of clients that has occurred and become more accountable for their inaction in serving those in desperate need.

Sincerely, Marilyn DiTota

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