From: Penny Newbury [mailto:pennynewbury@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 3:40 PM

To: ddsct.co

Subject: DDS 5 YEAR PLAN

Dear Governor Malloy and Commissioner Murray:

The State of Connecticut Department of Disabilities' 5-year-plan, while comprehensive and thoughtful, says little about the state's greatest asset: its community-based, private provider network. Able to serve people with I/DD nimbly in the spirit of person-centered supports, the provider network must be a key resource of Connecticut's 5-year plan. To do otherwise would be to short-change people with I/DD and their families throughout the state. Moreover, Connecticut's extensive waiting list must be addressed, and this plan must be adapted to include a plan for providing services to all who need them. The state's private provider network is a practical, affordable solution to addressing the needs of people with IDD who continue to wait desperately for supports they and their families require. It must be a key part of this 5-year plan.

Thank you for your time.

Penny Newbury Noank, CT