





017

Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DON'T TAKE ARE HEALTH (TAKE YOU)

Multiple horizontal lines for writing the body of the letter.

Sincerely,

KHORISABLAN

Name

MANTENO-CA.

City or County

9533

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/2/2016

Date

To whom it may concern,

I'm a 78-y.o. retired psychologist [BA UCLA; PhD USC] with from-birth Cerebral Palsy. Worked most of my career with DDs until "stiffening vocal cords" - age early 50s - ended my usefulness here. Became a CA Licensed Mediator at Loyola Law School [1993] until my wife's terminal illness required my 24/7/365 care for her. A broken leg put me in Cedars-Sinai followed by Guardian Rehab Hospital for 10-months [2016-17.] Presently live in my own home with my 29-y.o. daughter and 9-y.o. grandson [who has mild-moderate Autism.] Clearly, I'm far more fortunate than most "DDs" or "non-DDs."

Could I have done a small part of whatever I've done WITHOUT Medicare? Hell no! Still, the Ayn Rand-numbered politicians might regard me as One More Useless Eater. Fine! I've been called worse - and may be called still worse in years to come.

Sincerely,

Robert Aber

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90036

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a 37 year Daughter that is covered by Medicaid. she was born with Cerebral Palsy. she has not been able to find work. if she loses the coverage I cannot afford to pay for health insurance for her. I am the only member of the family working and it would not be enough for me to pay for coverage. My husband is a survivor of a five bypass surgery, and has not been able to work for the last five years. We are in the last month of coverage for Medicaid because the government takes into account how much gross income I make, not how much I bring after deductions, paying rent which is more than half of what I bring net of my salary. we also need to provide food, bills to pay. There is not enough money left to pay for health insurance which can cost me more than what I bring home. Not sure how are we going to do to keep our coverage, when we are given us less than a month to find an insurance.

Sincerely,

Maria Acosta

Name

Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County

City or County

90670

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6 / 21 / 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please Don't TAKE ARE med-cald
Because we need it For ARE health

Multiple horizontal lines for writing the body of the letter.

Sincerely,

Ashley A Crocker

Name

Tracy CA 95377

City or County

Zip Code

[Redacted] 95330

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/201

Date

To whom it may concern,

I found my self unemployed due to regulation. I applied for California care and qualified at a low rate which also qualified me for medical. I have high blood pressure that is genetic. It allowed me to continue receiving my medication at an affordable rate. I am now back to work and have insurance thru my employer. If it wasn't for medical/medicaid I wouldn't be able to afford medication then.

Sincerely,

Martin Aguilar

Name

Sylmar, Los Angeles County

City or County

91342

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hello my name is Luz Agundez, I have two children with disabilities. My oldest is my son Moises with Biliary Atresia is a rare disease of the liver and my daughter Luzeli has Down Syndrome. If you cut budget on Medicaid lots of people will get very sick or even die because we as poor people will not be able of buying expensive medicine's and even appointment's with the doctor or even hospital's. So please do not cut fund's on Medicaid because it will be a big tragedy for lots and lots of people. Thank you all for your kindness and understanding.

Sincerely,

Luz Agundez

Name

Hawthorne, Los Angeles County

City or County

90250

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Kati Aho [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:48 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters

We at the Earle Baum Center of the Blind work with clients on a daily basis who rely on Medicaid. As our organization see's our funding from the Department of Rehabilitation dwindle due to the recent cancellation of support for all of our clients who are in the Homemaker status (over 55 and not able to work – or a post retirement age), we are devastated about the potential of upcoming cuts from Federal funding for things such as Medicaid.

Our organization is working to increase our donation and grant funding in the hopes of not being in a position where we would need to refuse service to anyone with sight loss. These cuts have horrific impact on our clients and we will see those we work so hard with to stay independent loose housing with the eventual move to nursing homes, which as you know if more costly in the long run t tax payers.

Kati Aho
Director of Programs & Quality
[REDACTED]
Santa Rosa CA 95401
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Current Newsletter: <http://earlebaum.org/earle-baum-center-newsletter/>

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7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is 13 and is autistic. Without medi-cal my son would not get the therapy needed to help him.

Sincerely,

Denise Ahrens - Wells

Name

Fresno, Fresno County

City or County

93650

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

En mi hogar somos 7 yo y mi esposo y 5 hijos de edades 6,5,3,2,1 . uno de ellos (3yr) triste mente resiente fue diagnosticado autismo severo . reside a través del centro regional east bay recibimos terapias de speech, fisioterapias (P.T) .de medical reside A.B.A terapias de la conducta 25 horas a la semana L-Viernes a sido una gran ayuda y una compañía sobre este nuevo horizonte donde la vida nos da apoyo psicológico gracias con sus experiencias la trabajadora del centro regional eastbay. (Yesenia ortiz) sin estos fondos proporcionados a esta agencia fuera muy difícil para nosotros pagar y nuestros hijos con tremendas necesidades especiales necesarias para poder estabilizar su día a día fueran muy tormentoso solo pensar no recibirlos a través de estas agencias gracias

Sincerely,

Maly Alcantar

Name

Oakland, Alameda County

City or County

94605

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I'm 35 yrs. old and need a lot of medical attention with being diagnosed with Epilepsy, C.P, Hydrocephalus, Speech impairment. If wasn't for Medicaid/Medi-cal, I would be broke not being able to afford to buy my medicines, hospital stays, and maybe co-pays for doctor visits. I'm so grateful for the insurance company helping cover all of the medical needs.

Sincerely,

Brindicy Alcaraz-Pena

Name

Belmont, San Mateo County

City or County

94002

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



831993

Date

To whom it may concern,

LT# 544.4818 75336

These benefits are important to me because I rely on them to keep me healthy. I take medicine and without my benefits I wouldn't be able to afford it on my own.

Sincerely,

JOHN ALEXANDER

Name

RIDIN RD

City or County

[Redacted] 95336

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Both my children receive Medicaid due to their mental and developmental disabilities. Without Medicaid, my children would be with health benefits including my child's much needed medications to control her psychosis due to a brain disorder. Please do not reduce funding for Medicaid!!!

Sincerely,

Kathie Allen

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92602

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

These benefits are very important to me. For example, it is a necessity to have my walker with me at all times. And if there is a situation where my walker is not usable, I rely on my benefits to help me so I can walk around. I also take medications that keep me healthy and function everyday. If these benefits are taken away, I would be left struggling to find ways to afford my medications.

Sincerely,

Randy Allen

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95350

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My request is based on issues that I have seen in other countries like Iraq/Middle East that there are no such program to help people with disabilities and pay for their medical insurances. When I migrated to the US, I was impressed about the funds that goes to help people with disabilities. Disabled people are very large portion of the society that we can benefit from and harvest the goods to serve this country. I could see the ~~many~~ Art work, poems that have ^{been} written by those people with disabilities; I can tell that we can help this segment to be productive, and in order to be productive, they have to be healthy enough to do the work out to reach the

Sincerely,

idea of being

productive. PLEASE continue to fund disabled people to get the medicare.

Jian AlSarrayj

Name

Sacramento

City or County

95822

Zip Code

My appreciation

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



4/30/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has autism. At four years of age, I was washing dishes in the kitchen and when I finished, I looked to check on him and realized he had opened the front door and left. It took the police and a lot of other people to find him at the park, two major streets away. It's important to know that to this day we are still working on having him look both ways to cross the street. He is 10 years old now and still has the tendencies to just walk away or leave all together. He still doesn't look both ways to cross streets. He has trouble telling what's safe and dangerous. He has a disturbed sleep and wakes up in the middle of the night and walks around the house. He needs eyes on him 24/7. We were lucky once and can't expect to be lucky again. Which is why when he's home from school, I have to be home to make sure he's safe. When he's up at night, I have to be up and watch him. My limited availability to go out and get a job has made it difficult find one. We are a family of five and IHSS provides our family some NEEDED income. It is our life line, please don't take that away from us.

Sincerely,

Aida Amare

Name

Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County

City or County

91765

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



21 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DON'T TAKE AWAY MED-CAL
BECAUSE WE NEED IT FOR OUR HEALTH.

Sincerely,

ANA
Name
TRACY, CA.
City or County
CA 95330
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6-20-2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

please dont take our medical
away because we need it.
for alot of things for our
health, and to be able to
service because it covers
alot of medical needs. also.
without things like wheel chairs
walkers, and other medical equipment
we will lose alot of our gradson
peeps consider the impacts of these
cuts well making your decisions

Sincerely,

Amelia, mother

Name

Manteca CA

City or County

95336

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Having Medicaid funds give us Hope our love ones will live stronger, longer, and independently.

Sincerely,

Areli Aparicio

Name

Garden Grove, Orange County

City or County

92844

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter is more independent in the community because I receive funding from regional center to pay for Independent Living Skills, Tailored Day Services, Job Coaching, Independent Living Program and medical insurance support services. The funds for these services are made available through Medicaid. It's important Medicaid remains in place to assure the funding and the services and my daughters independence can continue so she can continue to live independently and keep her job. With out this support she would not have been able to achieve the independence that she has and would not be able to continue to be successful in and contribute to the community.

With out this support she would require much more costly living arrangements and would not be able to work!

Sincerely,

Janice Apol

Name

Los Altos, Santa Clara County

City or County

94024

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

We are a family of 4 and our son Peter was born with Autism. I was in utter despair not knowing what to do to help him. Thanks to the Golden Gate Regional Center we were able to access services to help my son. A behaviorist came to our home once a week and worked with us as a family to help us understand Peters needs and how to manage life with him. I was constantly stressed out and felt so vulnerable. When we got the services from the regional center it really helped us know what to do. Day by day with the ongoing support Peter is successful living in a supportive living situation.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Aranson

Name

Novato, Marin County

City or County

94945

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son was diagnosed with autism 2016, it's very important for my son and our family to continue with thr support, because the therapies are very expensive.

Sincerely,

Yeordana Arellano

Name

Stanton, Orange County

City or County

90680

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

When my daughter was 3 I took her to see a neurologist because she wasn't talking. We found out that she had autism so we got her into a child developmental center. Because she had medical I was able to get her speech therapy and behavior therapy so she could make progress. Taking it away would take away my daughters speech therapy where helped her to start talking. Please understand that all human should have a chance to live and have Medicare. That's all we're asking for.

Sincerely,

Claudia Arevalo

Name

Santa Ana, Orange County

City or County

92707

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid funds my program that helps me live independently. I have high functioning autism. I am a walking talking catch 22 because I am highly verbal but then am so distractible that I need to be reminded to shower and take my medication and also for clothes appropriate for the weather. My staff help me be my most independent self.

Sincerely,

Jackie Armstrong

Name

Roseville, Placer County

City or County

95661

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a 7 year old son who was diagnosed with autism and ADHD. He receive Services through the Regional Center For Speech Therapy, behavioral therapy and we as a family receive respite services. All of these Services have been vital to his continued growth and development. These services help to facilitate to the quality of his life and improvement of his disability. IHSS allows him to live safely in the home. The goal is for Jordan to become a functional adult contributing to our community and the world around him. Please reconsider cutting funding to theses resources as they provide so many families with the help they desperately need to care for their lives one's. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Janene Arteche

Name

Anaheim, Orange County

City or County

92807

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have worked to support people with disabilities for 27 years. I currently work in the Community Services department at Westside Regional Center in West Los Angeles and work to support people with disabilities every single day. People with disabilities rely on Medicaid to provide necessary life-sustaining services, which help them to receive healthcare, supervision for safety, work training, employment support and assistance to reside in their homes and be part of the community like everyone else. Medicaid cuts will result in sickness, poverty, neglect, segregation and overwhelming tragedy for people with disabilities and their families. Medicaid cuts will ultimately cause death to people with disabilities, who rely on this support to live. Please do not allow Medicaid cuts.

Sincerely,

Pamela Arturi

Name

Culver City, Los Angeles County

City or County

90025

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My child has a developmental disability and very much relies on crucial services and therapies offered through Medicaid. Please spare Medicaid for the sake of those who are most vulnerable, such as disabled children like my own son. It must also be spared for the elderly and poor populations- lives will be destroyed and lives will be lost if there are cuts or caps to Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Debbie Atlas

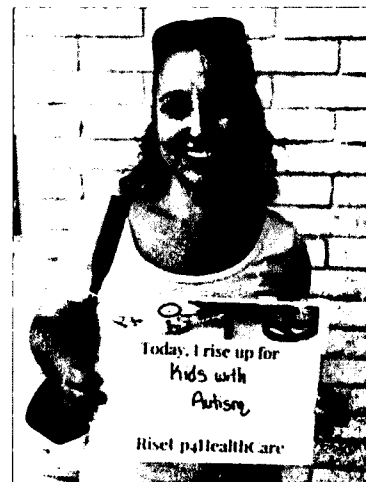
Name

Newbury Park, Ventura County

City or County

91320

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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July 27, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our beautiful blessed youngest son, Isaiah Avila, has Autism, Severe Intellectual Delay, Seizure Disorder, Hypothyroidism, Irritable Bowel Syndrome and several other issues. He is non-verbal, and is dependent on a diaper for his bowel movements and urination. He has to take 10 medications daily as prescribed by his many Medical Specialists. We thank God that he has been provided key essential services from CVRC, (Central Valley Regional Center), Medi-Cal or Medicaid, and IHSS. Although Isaiah "graduated" from high school and is now almost 19 years old, we are thankful he is still allowed to attend the Adult Special Education program at the local school district. Since his father and I work full-time, he still needs IHSS services to care for him when he arrives home in the early afternoon to provide bowel/bladder care, food preparation, and constant supervision. Since his dad and I are in our fifties will continue to need more IHSS to help provide care so that he can stay with us as long as we are alive.

As you know, it is less costly to have him stay home with IHSS services and not stay with strangers at a facility. As a grown tall man he often gets agitated, but more often he is very loving and gentle. For his sake, please allow our blessed handsome Isaiah stay home with us. May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Avila

Name

Fresno, Fresno County

City or County

93720

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



May 10, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

I am very appreciative of the support I receive via VMRC, It allows Ms to live out my daily life in a meaningful way. While it is sometimes very hard to maneuver without support, I am and for the rest of my life depend on the use of a wheelchair. Thanks ^{to} VMRC I have the opportunity as an individual to make choices as an everyday citizen with the support of my program. I am thankful ^{to be} forgiven a chance to live a productive life.

Sincerely,

Lisa Babcock

Name

San Joaquin County

City or County

95207

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:21 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Cc: Bailey, Michael@cox
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters to Me

My name is Michael E. Bailey. I live in Mission Viejo in Orange County California. I receive regional center services and supports to live on my own in my own condo. Regional Center supports and services have been, are, and will continue to be critical to my being able to live independently in the community. Regional Centers and their services must be preserved and they must be funded with enough funding they can help every one with a developmental disability. I served on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities from 2009 to 2011 and worked hard to protect services and supports. One of my last assignments was to chair the Employment First Committee and its Work & Benefits Subcommittee. Employment first is a great thing for people who want and choose to leave the workshops and go into community integrated employment with the supports and services they need to be successful. However, repeal of the ACA would eliminate much of our progress by eliminating the Medicaid Expansion provision. Doing this would eliminate funding for regional centers, long term services and supports, vocational supports for people with disabilities, funds for moving people out of expensive state owned developmental centers into community settings, the money follows the person initiative and many other necessary services and supports. Also, I and most everyone with disabilities rely on the Medicaid program for our medical services. The ACA Repeal and Trumpcare would severely damage millions of people. ACA repeal must be rejected along with Trumpcare when the vote comes up in Congress. Their approval would be a huge health care disaster and must not be done. I urge you to vote to support and keep the ACA. Thank you for your consideration on this critically important issue and best wishes.



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Michael E. Bailey passed Vice Chairman of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities. Medicaid is critical to me not only for necessary medical care but also for the very crucial things that the regional centers do. For me, regional center long term community services and supports have met that I am able to live as independently as I can in my community of Mission Viejo. My independent living program, Vocational Visions that did so much for me in getting employment and job coaching so I could do my best at my job, and the rehabilitation program I am in now, all come from the RegionalCenter of Orange County and are extremely important. Much of the funding for regional centers and community services and supports comes from the Medicaid Extension in the Affordable Care Act that would go away if the ACA were repealed to be replaced bynothing. I know how critical regional center services are to me and to millions in California through my service on the State Council, on the Area Board, on the Regional Center Orange County Board of Directors and the Regional Center Client Advisory Committee. Please, I urge you, vote NO on ACA repeal. Vote NO on replacing the ACA with the poorly thought out American Health Care Act. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Bailey

Name

Mission Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92675

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

The Medicaid Expansion in the Affordable Care Act is of critical importance to me because I need long term services and supports from regional center to live as independently as possible in the community. Without these vital supports and services, I would have to be in a very expensive institution. I need help with basic things like banking, grocery shopping, meal preparation, laundry and etc. Money for my independent living program comes from regional center through the expanded medicaid provisions in the Affordable Care Act. Please vote NO on repealing the Affordable Care Act. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Bailey

Name

Mission Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92675

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid (Medi-Cal) in California, is vitally important to me and millions of other disabled people who receive services and supports through the regional centers and medical care through California's managed care plans for Medi-Cal. Much of the funding comes from the Medicaid Expanded provision in the Affordable Care Act. Please vote NO on repeal of the Affordable Care Act. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Bailey

Name

Mission Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92675

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/17/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is critically important to me. I have a great independent living program located close to me in Mission Viejo that helps with meals, grocery shopping, medical appointments, banking, and house keeping. Before I had to retire, my supported employment program was Vocational Visions and they gave me the supports I needed to be successful in my job as a library page. Now, I am retired and in a rehab program in Laguna Woods that is helping me with various mental and physical therapies. Major cuts to Medicaid would put these things at risk and many similar programs for millions of disabled Californians at risk as Medicaid covers upto 50% of the cost of such programs and services through the regional centers. Please vote "NO" on ACA repeal and demand republicans allow hearings on their health care bill before any vote is taken even if the Senate must be shut down to do it. Thank you

Sincerely,

Michael Bailey

Name

Mission Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92675

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is very important to me. It is my health insurance and it also funds at least half of the community based services and supports I need through the Regional Center of Orange County. Medicaid is very important to millions of other people with disabilities as it helps cover the costs of independent living programs, group homes, supported living, IHSS, workshops, supported employment programs, and rehabilitation programs. Medicaid must be kept in tact and not be turned into a state block grant.

Sincerely,

Michael Bailey

Name

Mission Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92653

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is of vital importance to me because it is not only my medical access. It is also what makes it possible for me to live as independently as possible in the community through Regional Center Independent Living Program and the rehabilitation program I go to. It is of critical importance to seniors, the disability community, and those with low incomes--millions of people.

Sincerely,

Michael Bailey

Name

Mission Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92653

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I write on behalf of my sister, who cannot speak for herself. Susie was born with severe developmental disabilities; she is non-verbal, wears adult diapers, and has relied on the 24 hour-a-day care and support of wonderful caregivers in a group home in the Central Valley for the past 30+ years. She is 66 years old.

Susie is as happy and innocent as a child. She loves to sit in her favorite chair on the patio, watch tv, ride in the car and go to the park. When my husband and I make our monthly visit to see her, nothing gives her (or us) more pleasure than to go to Applebee's for her favorite treats - chicken fingers, fries and a soda.

California Medicaid provides Susie's health insurance, and the cost of her group home and the care she gets through the Central Valley Regional Center. We could not possibly cover her care and living expenses if her Medicaid was eliminated.

My husband and I are both retired and on a fixed income ourselves, and live about 250 miles from Susie's home. She - and we - would be devastated by the responsibility and costs if her critical Medicaid is ripped away. I don't know what we, or she, will do if this heartless Republican plan actually comes to pass. As Franklin Delano Roosevelt once said, "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."

Sincerely,

Pat Bakalian

Name

Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



City or County

95401

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/8/2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Right now I'm
waiting on a new wheelchair
if I don't get because
my car gets cut
I will stick in this
wheelchair that's going
to fall apart and leave
my ass spread in
the middle street

Sincerely,

Robert Balderrama ROBER BALDERA

Name

STOCKTON

City or County

95209

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is severely disabled and medically fragile. He relies on Med-Cal/Medicaid for everything. His life is so much better with it and the help of our Regional Center. He needs special medications, disposable goods and durable goods to have a better quality of life. He also relies on IHSS to make sure he is safe and comfortable in his own home instead of a facility where he would most likely perish. Please make sure no cuts are made to these programs. Thank you, Robert

Sincerely,

Robert Baldo

Name

San Marino, Los Angeles County

City or County

91108

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi, My name is Margaret Barcelo, I am 50 years old; I was born with Cerebral Palsy. I have Medi-Cal and Medicare, and receive social security benefits. I strongly depend on my medication. I have eight doctors that I see on a regular basis: a neurologist, a preliminary, a podiatrist, a dermatologist, an optometrist, and a Rheumatology doctor.

I go to swimming therapy twice a week that I enjoy very much; it's very beneficial for my health and well-being so I can continue to live independently. I have lived on my own for 21 years. I receive In-home Support Services (HISS) so I can continue to live independently from the Regional Center Services. the support I get independent living and support living skills that's works with me twice week. Without these services I won't be able to survive or live independently. It would take away my freedom and that won't be good for me.

Sincerely,

Margaret Barcelo

Name

West Covina, Los Angeles County

City or County

91790

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a 20 years old Autistic girl. I was diagnosed very late by age of 7. The school district paid for my ABA therapies up to age 18. When Obama care started it took care of those therapies. If the new health care act passes I will loose my therapies plus that I am on 6 kind of medication for my mood disorders, psychotic symptoms and severe hypertension. If I don't receive Medicaid or there are cuts in coverage it is very hard for me and my parents to pay for my health insurance. My family's annual income is \$50000. We are going through economic hardship, the one great thing that helped me continue my therapies and take of my heath was the obama care. My parents are already paying big portions of the health insurance for themselves. Their work only pays for half of the cost. I urge you to not cut from Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Sahar Barkzay

Name

Costa Mesa, Orange County

City or County

92627

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a 20 years old Autistic girl. I was diagnosed very late by age of 7. The school district paid for my ABA therapies up to age 18. When Obama care started it took care of those therapies. If the new health care act passes I will loose my therapies plus that I am on 6 kind of medication for my mood disorders, psychotic symptoms and severe hypertension. If I don't receive Medicaid or there are cuts in coverage it is very hard for me and my parents to pay for my health insurance. My family's annual income is \$ 50000. We are going through economic hardship, the one great thing that helped me continue my therapies and take of my heath was the obama care. My parents are already paying big portions of the health insurance for themselves. Their work only pays for half of the cost. I urge you to not cut from Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Sahar Barkzay

Name

Costa Mesa, Orange County

City or County

92627

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicare is my primary insurance and it only pays 80% of my healthcare costs. Medi-Cal is my secondary insurance and it pays the left over 20% of covered services. My income on Social Security Benefits could not pay any percentage of my medical care. Without Medi-Cal I could not have in-home support services or (IHSS). I cannot pay for IHSS out-of-pocket. The State of California wants to implement one payer universal health care and incorporate Medicare and Medi-Cal funding from the US government. Our country cannot even agree on universal healthcare. Without Medicaid funded by the federal government it would cease to exist, and all of us relying on Medicaid would be institutionalized against our wills.

Sincerely,

Michelle A Bartick

Name

San Diego, San Diego County

City or County

92115

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

June 25, 2017

Dear Congressman Issa,

I am literally despondent thinking of what we are about to do to our children. Medicaid funds *half* of the money for the children's hospitals in our country. With the proposed cuts in Medicaid, most of the children that I care for will lose out on their health and their safety and there's nothing I can do.

I will never forget my very first patient who I saw on my obstetrics/gynecology rotation. She was 44 and had metastatic ovarian cancer. She worked as a temp and seemed really organized. She was so sweet—she sat in the hospital bed and wrote cards to everyone and had beautiful handwriting. She didn't have health insurance, so didn't get her women's health exams for a few years. We couldn't do anything for her at that point, but every day I'd go by and talk. She died 3 weeks after I met her. She might have lived if she had health insurance.

Twenty years ago, we'd see patients who'd come into the ER with giant tumors that were disfiguring but hadn't come earlier because of the cost; the child who was struggling to breathe and hadn't come in earlier because her parents couldn't afford their asthma medicine that had run out; the premature baby who would be getting better care if his parents had insurance and could have gotten to a better hospital. I don't see that now. I really don't. Maybe we have to wait for a specialty outpatient visit, maybe we complain about the authorizations and paperwork and productivity requirements, but right now, we are at a high point for children's access to health care—at least 95% of our children have health insurance and that is 40% more children than we had insured in 2008. When they get covered, it's for everything--medications, therapies, well child checks, mental health, hospitalizations and much more—those are essential health benefits.

We've done this piecemeal and by no means is it perfect. But, we are about to go back to an era that I don't want to see. I don't want to go back. I don't have a single answer and I have no hope at this point, so I guess I'm turning to you, hoping that maybe you can speak up, do something, really do anything.

We are already the nation that ranked #42 on children's well-being and a child under the age of 5 is nearly just as likely to die (6.9 per 1,000 live births) as one in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, or Uruguay; where 43% of low-income Americans went without medical care in 2015 because of costs; where the rates of childhood obesity, and the rates of chronic medical conditions for children are *twice* that of other similar countries; where the rates of asthma, diabetes and autism are all growing. But, we are also the nation in which when I started medical school, a child with acute lymphoblastic leukemia would most likely have died and now there is 90% survival, an average child with cystic fibrosis would have died at 20 and now will live until almost 40. But only if these children can get access to the health care they need, that all children need, that all people need.

Please save Medicaid for these children.

Sincerely,

Alicia Bazzano

Dr. Alicia Bazzano, MD, PhD

Encinitas, CA 92024



7-14-2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE, money
Vmrc, VALLEY
MOUNTAIN
REGIONAL CENTER,
DONOT CUT
MEDICATION, BECAUSE I
WOULD NOT BE ABLE
TO GO DAY PROGRAM
FOR GO PHILIPPINES
TO GO FRANCISCO

Sincerely,

Name

SONNABELA, ANNE

City or County

STOCKTON CALIFORNIA

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Rebecca, My daughter is 8 years old her name is nasiña and she is severely autistic non verbal. My husband is working and has a great job, he does have private insurance and it is a wonderful privilege to have through his job. The bad part is it doesn't cover any of her therapies because autism isn't a part of a medical condition and it's also not a mental issue. (Or so what the self funded insurance company is telling us) I have fought with them time and time again of covering my daughter for countless things and always been turned down. Yes my husband works and he pays his taxes but we also have 4 other children including one who is going to college full time and can't get approved for any fasfa or Financial aid because of my husbands job. So given she has been trying to get a part time job to help with the expenses it's up to us to pay for it out of pocket unless she lies to Financial aid and say she no longer lives with us and then she has to file that we were abusive parents. Which of course would be falsifying documents and we will not do. I just recently had to take my daughter to children's hospital for an infection in her cheek due to a cavity that became infected. The amount for her work to be done in her mouth out of pocket AFTER using his insurance? \$2,500.00

We don't have that money, you what to know how much our co pay was out of pocket for taking her to the Children's hospital? \$1,300.00. We can't afford that what so ever. We were trying to save enough to get the work done on her teeth which because we have been waiting caused the infection. I am trying to do what we can to stay afloat but it's very difficult already losing one of our vehicles to repossession to save some money. We need Medicaid we are a middle class family, we pay our taxes, we are law abiding citizens. Please hear our voice,...

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Rebecca Benavente

Name

Visalia, Tulare County

City or County

93277

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am grandmother and Legal Guardian of my grandson, Aksel Raymond Akeson. I gained Legal custody of him when he was 10 months old. Whenever I would see him at his estranged and disheveled mother's home, prior to my guardianship, she spoke of him as "a good quiet baby, who never cries." I would always find him either in his crib or strapped into his car seat on the floor of their home. He was extremely sensitive to being held and would strain backward and away from being held. He could not sit up on his own and had only slight experience with being spoon fed (whenever I would come over, only). After I obtained guardianship for both he and his elder (2 year old) sister, I immediately physically worked with him and verbally and sensorally tried to stimulate responses from him. He did not acknowledge his name, nor speak any utterances. He did quickly learn to sit up and then to crawl. By 12 months old, he still had no utterances and crawled like a little motor into walls and over objects with little reaction or notice of them. As a reading specialist and English teacher, I reached out to mentors and language programs for infants to try to stimulate his utterances. By 18 months old, he still was non-verbal. I contacted Tri-Counties Regional Center in Oxnard, California and they quickly began assessing Aksel. He was diagnosed with Autism and Sensory Processing Disorder, without Intellectual Impairment. At 21 months, Aksel had 3 therapists coming in to work with him, three times a week: Early Intervention, Speech and Language, and Occupational Therapy. These wonderful human beings attended to Aksel and trained me and my son, who left his home in Washington to help me raise his niece and nephew- my grand children, on procedures to enhance Aksel's learning. They worked with us through his 36th month. When they left, Aksel was still extremely delayed in all respects, except for Gross Motor Skills- Speech and Language was delayed still by 18 months. At 3 years old, Tri-Counties accepted Aksel into their 3 Year and older program. We soon had ABA Therapists coming into the home 2 times a week. Aksel began utterances at 38 months and began naming and associating words and language. At 48 months, Tri-Counties

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Regional assisted us in having a DIR Specialist come into the home twice a week, as ABA therapy was too physical and Aksel began to regress. We have had Miss Kathleen as a DIR Floor Model Specialist in our home now, twice a week, and Aksel has gained in all areas of language, social norms, behavior, and motor skills exponentially! He also attends Ventura County Special Education Preschool, which employs the best and the most dedicated teachers I have had the pleasure of knowing! Aksel recently has been recommended for a General Education Kindergarten class next year, due to his gains over this last year! It is my firm, educated, utmost belief that Aksel could NOT have become the kiddo who he is, and have the opportunity to discover who he can be, without the early intervention and dedicated, persistent assistance that we have had from Tri-Counties Regional Center in Oxnard, California for the last 4 years!!! They truly have provided a life that he can now experience!

Sincerely,

Michelle Bennett

Name

Oxnard, Ventura County

City or County

93033

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am an insulin dependant Diabetic in addition to being HIV+, and I received a kidney transplant 5 Years ago. I need Medicaid and the ACA to manage and stay on top of all my medical needs. I hope our current administration has a change of heart, instead of putting profits above people's health needs. I will die without my coverage and that frightens me greatly.

Sincerely,

Shawn Bennett

Name

San Francisco, County of San Francisco

City or County

94114

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My sister, Callie, has been intellectually challenged since birth. She went to special education until high school. When she was 19, she was able to get a job with the resources of the regional center pulling weeds and watering plants at a garden center in Ramona. Since then, she has had a job at Pizza Hut and now works at UCP stuffing envelopes. Without the regional center, she would probably do nothing but watch TV all day. Her mental capacity is that of a 4 year old. Having a job keeps her busy and feeling useful. Three years ago, our mom passed away. (Our dad died many years ago). Callie had to be placed in a boarding care home. Her disability is too much for my brother and I to have in our homes. She needs more care and wouldn't be able to get up and down stairs. Her new home is 24 hour care and they are wonderful. Callie also has some medical issues that Medicaid/medical covers that she would not be able to obtain without benefits. I believe as people who live in our nation, we should work together to take care of those who cannot take care of themselves. Anything can happen to any of us at any time. I'm proud that we live in a country that doesn't walk away from those who need benefits. My sister needs benefits. Please don't ever settle for taking away these benefits.

Sincerely,

Susan Bennett

Name

San Diego, San Diego County

City or County

92128

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi my name is Cinthia Bernardo, my brother has autism , and with this funding he was getting help with his Dr visits and eyeglasses care ,however his medical was cut off. My father already works hard enough for his family and unfortunately it's not enough to sustain, to add this expense on top of that. Now he was also getting help to be more independent but unfortunately it was also cut off. All I'm asking is for you guys to help us. Please we need all this support for our loved once.

Sincerely,

Cinthia Bernardo

Name

North Hills, Los Angeles County

City or County

91343

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

Dear Rep Feinstien and Rep Harris ,

My name is Nancy Bertilaechi. I live in
Stockton CA 95219. I have

A need for
Medications and have many
friends in the community who would be affected
also.

The health care reform bill 1628 would
devastate my life by taking away funding for

My Transport Afion day
day Program.

Please vote no to taking away my lifeline for
healthcare and community support that helps me
grow and work. Thank you for considering my voice!

Thank You,

Nancy Bertilaechi



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hello my name is Betzaida and the reason why I want to share my story with you is to help the senators understand the affects of cutting medicaid to people like myself. Millions of americans like myself depend on Medicaid for the very basic necessities. Medicaid allows me to visit my doctors, provides me my medications, pay for my daily care, my wheelchair, and regional center services. I am currently going to a adult day program where I practice my art. I am an artist and through my program I am able to work as a artist and live life. Medicaid doesn\'t just provide my basic needs, but allow me to live my dreams as an artist and I want my senators to understand how much this can truly affect people like myself. PLEASE VOTE NO!!!

Sincerely,

Betzaida Velasquez

Name

Los Angeles, Mendocino County

City or County

90045

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 7 year old son has Developmental Disabilities and Autism. Without MediCal/Medicaid, we would be unable to get him the in-home services he needs to grow and thrive. Private Health insurances do not cover ABA or OT therapies, which are criticle to help him become more self-sufficient. The amount of one-on-one care he needs allows me to remain his primary care giver and receive IHSS benefits, as it would not be possible for me to work and leave him with a day care. The help afforded by MediCal/MediCaid has been invaluable and I am truly frightened for him and other people with disabilities, given the changes that the government is looking to make.

Sincerely,

Paula Bevany

Name

Corona, Riverside County

City or County

92883

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 24, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hello my name is Tynetta Black, and I am writing on behalf of my 13 year old daughter Naomi Clayton. Naomi is legally blind and autistic. She takes 18 pills a day In result of her pituitary insufficiency.

I am paid through IHSS to be Naomi's care provider. I am unable to work for a regular employer because Naomi requires 24 hour care. Unfortunately, daycare facilities aren't equipped to administer injections or provide the type of care Naomi requires.

I was 16 years old when my daughter was born, and I decided then that I would make sure she was properly cared for. A major part of providing for her is through Medicaid and its funding.

Medicaid pays for her medication.

Pays me to care for her, and provides help for many other families directly and through other agencies.

I've seen school district budget cuts close down specialized programs for children with disabilities forcing them to go to school with teachers and facilities that aren't equipped to meet their needs. I am now witnessing children being bunched together with disabilities as different as night and day being crammed together because they are not "normal"

People don't tend to care about things like this until it directly effects them. But how would it look for America the greatest nation in world to deny medication, food, resources, education, and employment to the citizens that need it most.

Having a disability is not a choice. Depending on man made drugs in order to

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



survive is not something these citizens have decided to do. Requiring the aid of someone else for survival is no ones ideal situation. Handicapped individuals need our support because they NEED OUR SUPPORT not want, but need.

Turning our backs or cutting the support of disabled persons and their families will show an extreme character flaw on Us as a nation.

Denying someone with no other choices and no other resources the right to live is UnAmerican.

I hope this letter reaches an open mind, and pure heart.

Sincerely,

Tynetta Black aka "Naomi's Mom"

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90016

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our story is simple. My husband and I have 2 minor children with autism who are Regional Center consumers on Medicaid, the DD HCBS Waiver for developmentally disabled minor children. We know first hand, what it means to have it and what it means NOT to have it. We were barely making it on one income for several years because our regional center (targeted case management paid with federal funds) failed make us aware of ANY of the HCBS waiver supports. No refererals were made in spite of the fact that I could not work and my children were severe autism and had to have the care. My husband was working and we had employer insurance and were not penniless but if any emergency happened we were in danger of losing it all and institutionalizing our sons. In 2013 my husband had a heart attack and was in the hospital having open heart surgery when we got a 3 day quit notice from our apartment complex.and I thought I was going to literally be set out on the street with my two boys. I called regional center and they told me there was "nothing they could do for my sons or my family." I was so stressed out. It was hard enough paying the copays for ABA and now this unexpected health issue came up! We were exhausted of funds from \$1100 per month of ABA copays plus \$400/mo. OT copays and \$400/mo. of speech copays. None of these providers took Medi-Cal at that time either. We ended up moving our boys away from their school and friends to a whole other county! It has been hard on them due to their autism; however, once we moved we were out of NLACRC's catchment are and in IRC's area. Thank God! Our caseworker asked if I was transferring the boys' IHHS and then she explained the program to me. I cried. Now that my boys are receiving IHHS hours, we can afford the therapies that we never could before and we are not devastated if we have an unexpected medical bill for me or my husband. Thanks to IHHS our family is under much less stress and our children are progressing towards independence because they have the therapies and support that they need and their parents are less stressed. This makes our household run so much more smoothly! I am so happy we did not have

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



to put our boys in an institution! It is so much better for them to be at home and cheaper for the State as well!

Sincerely,

Athena Bond

Name

Lake Elsinore, Riverside County

City or County

92532

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the 69-year-old sister and conservator of Jonathan Booth, a 55-year-old man with severe autism, who is unable to communicate except for basic needs, and is not employable. When I hear of the attempts to cut Medicaid and potentially do away with or severely diminish the help that he receives for the medical care and home services that enable him to live on his own, I want to cry, or flee to another country with more heart.

We have already survived, but with a great deal of stress and disruption, the 10% cuts to social services that California instituted in 2009. He has had to move 3 times in order to still maintain his own apartment with live-in aid, and is still struggling to pay excessive rent on his meager social security survivor's benefits. No one is offering to increase those benefits as costs rise, and therefore to propose the draconian cuts that are currently discussed while offering tax cuts and other benefits to the wealthiest 10% and big corporations is cruel and unusual punishment for the disabled.

His life will be severely impacted if he has to endure cuts in his In-Home Support Services, the only means he has to maintain himself in his own place. Where can he go, if he cannot afford a live-in aid? Is California planning to reopen all the group housing facilities for the disabled after Reagan closed them all in the 1980's? Will we backtrack on the Lantermann Act's efforts to include the disabled in the community? Will he end up homeless on the streets? I have spent the last decade devoting myself to helping my parents' end-of-life transitions, and my art career has gone nowhere because it takes massive energy and effort to make a living in the arts in this country. I do not have the means to financially support my brother should the system collapse due to future cuts.

Therefore, I am pleading for complete resistance to this and any other Trump

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



efforts to take from the poor and give to the wealthy.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Booth

Name

Martinez, Contra Costa County

City or County

94553

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My sister is telling my story because I am unable to. I am a 55 year old man with severe autism. I am non-verbal and unable to work, and I am afraid that I will be unable to care for myself in old age and with any sickness because of proposed cuts to medicaid. I'm already having a hard time caring for my teeth, because I chew and grind really hard and that wears down my teeth and they get infected. I didn't plan to have autism all my life, and wonder what will happen to me if my sister, who is 14 years older than me, dies before I do. How can I trust that there will be anyone who cares for my medical difficulties? I have already had to have very expensive hospitalization for kidney stones, thank God Obamacare was there for me. But with cuts to Medicaid, it looks like Trumpcare won't be there for me in my old age. I'm not able to afford high cost premiums or any of the expensive plans currently being proposed. Perhaps I should go back to Canada, from which my parents emigrated when I was 6 months old. They didn't know I had autism back then, but in America they were able to put their trust in a medical system that used to be one of the best in the world. Thank you for listening. Please don't let them cut Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Booth

Name

Martinez, Contra Costa County

City or County

94553

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-Cal provides health insurance to more than 2 million older adults and individuals with disabilities in California.

Medi-Cal ensures that older adults and individuals with disabilities receive necessary, life-saving medical care. For example, Medi-Cal covers a range of long-term care services. Medi-Cal makes coverage affordable for older adults and individuals with disabilities by limiting cost-sharing (co-pays, premiums and deductibles) and paying for Medicare out-of-pocket costs through Medicare Savings Programs.

Some key facts of the state's Medi-Cal program are:

Two-thirds of all Medi-Cal spending is for older adults and individuals with disabilities

Medi-Cal currently helps 1.3 million Californians pay for Medicare cost-sharing.

The American Health Care Act (AHCA), the ACA repeal-and-replace bill passed by the Republican House, would dramatically reduce federal Medicaid funding to California through a per capita cap. This funding cut jeopardizes care for our growing, aging population, and individuals with disabilities. The AHCA will:
Cut Medicaid funding regardless of increased costs as the elderly population lives longer

Jeopardize Medi-Cal eligibility for older adults and individuals with disabilities who typically have greater medical needs and experience higher health care costs.

Because of our daughter's Cerebral Palsy, the Medical Therapy Program (MTP) is a special program within California Children's Services that provides physical therapy

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



(PT), occupational therapy (OT) and medical therapy conference (MTC) services for children who have disabling conditions, generally due to neurological or musculoskeletal disorders.

Sincerely,

Linda Bouman

Name

Fullerton, Orange County

City or County

92835

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



June 8, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

A few years ago I was on SST and Medicaid. I was very grateful for the services I did receive.

Medicaid is important so children and adults with disabilities they need the service to get their Medicaid and physical therapy. Please don't cut the services.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Desiree Baykin

Name

Los Angeles

City or County

90008

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7-22-17

Date

To whom it may concern,

Please help my son w/ Down Syndrome
continue his health care, his
employment, his life

Thank You

Sincerely,

Deborah Buelhad

Name

Sacramento

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 38 year old brother-in-law, John has Autism Spectrum Disorder and severe intellectual disability. While I was in graduate school in 2006 he came to live with his brother and I. Despite the fact that we were both full time graduate students we were able to hire and coordinate staff to work with him in our community every single day. Through Medicaid funded programs he was able to go shopping, go to the doctor, visit horses, the beach, and hike in the redwoods all while we pursued our Master's degrees. Since 2006 I have shifted my career to work toward including people with developmental disabilities in our communities. Medicaid is a critical program that not only allows people to have access to medical care as needed, but also to remain living as neighbors, friends and family in the midst of our communities rather than in institutions. Please take action to ensure this vital program remains.

Sincerely,

Sierra Braggs

Name

Eureka, Humboldt County

City or County

95501

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Dear Rep Feinstien and Rep Harris ,

My name is Brondi . I live in
Stockton CA 95206 . I have

medical
needs and have many
friends in the community who would be affected
also.

The health care reform bill 1628 would
devastate my life by taking away funding for

housing and
nutrition.

Please vote no to taking away my lifeline for
healthcare and community support that helps me
grow and work. Thank you for considering my voice!

Thank You,

Brondi



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

This year, my friends from grammar school, high school and college and I turn 60. The focus of concern for my empty-nester friends is "how in the world will we be able to care for our aging parents. They are in their 80's now and beginning to lose their health -- and, their independence!"

My concerns never leave my lips. After all, how could they possibly understand?

How in the world will we be able to care for our 31 year old developmentally disabled son for the next 50 years -- and then, through his 80's?!

Without Medicaid? Impossible.

Sincerely,

Ann Brazil

Name

Pasadena, Alameda County

City or County

91107

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a child with severe disabilities. Despite not being able to speak or eat by mouth, or walk independently, he is an active part of our community. Everybody knows him and tells us how much light and joy his smile and laugh brings into their world. If we did not have the REgional Center, CCS, IHSS, special education...all of which are funded by medicaid, he would be in an institution. He would have starved to death earlier in life because we would not afford his g-tube and supplies. We would not afford the help that allows us to go to work, despite his need for full time care when he is out of school (where he is mainstreamed and part of the school community). We could not afford his mobility equipment and he would be bed ridden, with the further health issues that entails. Without Medicaid, we would be homeless and likely jobless, because the costs of keeping him alive and functioning would be more than our mortgage payments, our school loan payments and our food ALTOGETHER. Medicaid is vital to Sam and all like him.

Sincerely,

Isis Brenner-Ward

Name

Ukiah, Mendocino County

City or County

95482

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a Registered Nurse Consultant for Redwood Coast Regional Center serving clients with disabilities in both Mendocino and Lake County. I have worked in this position for 3 years.

Medicaid funds help our clients in many ways. It pays for IHSS (caregivers who give personal care to our clients), it pays for Regional Center services (we help in a variety of ways with helping clients find homes, helping clients living within the community, and in my position I ensure that the clients I serve receive the same medical care/treatment that you and I would receive as non-disabled citizens. If there are caps or if Medicaid is taken away, our clients will suffer. The reason for regional center services is so that we can help our clients with disabilities live within the community, and be productive citizens. Medicaid services ensures that our clients stay out of state institutions.

As the RN consultant I cannot tell you how many times I've had to fight hospitals and doctors to ensure that the client I am serving is treated medically just as well as anyone with decent health insurance. Not only do I have to teach doctors and nurses that our clients do have worth and that they do matter, and that they do have a quality of life, but I have to make sure that our clients are not passed up on medically because they only have Medicaid.

If Medicaid is taken away by even a small amount, the impact on our clients will be dire.

Please, keep Medicaid, it has saved many of my clients lives. It has enabled many of my clients to live within the community and be PRODUCTIVE citizens (work jobs etc).

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Michelle Brooks RN BSN

Name

Ukiah, Mendocino County

City or County

95470

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



WEDNESDAY JUNE 21/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DONT Take a remed - cal
away FROM US

Sincerely,

Becky Brown

Name

MANTECA CA

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



23 July 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Majority of families with special needs child are low income. We could hardly afford to pay the therapies (OT, PT, social rehab, medical costs). Taking away or reducing MEDICAID is a crime. It is very very crucial that MEDICAID should continue, if the government can not increase.

DO NOT take away Medicaid

Sincerely,

Priscilla R. Brown

Name

Santa Clara, County

City or County

95020

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/21/2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Our son Christopher is able to live independently and work 12 to 15 hours a week with the help of Regional Center in transportation and vocational support. Because of that support he leads a fulfilling life and is less of a burden on society.

Please maintain Medi-Cal support and Regional Center funding

Sincerely,


Name

NAPA, CA
City or County

94559
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I've worked in the Human Services area since 1990 and for 27 years I've seen the benefits of Medicaid. I used to be a Medicaid worker for the county of Kings. I saw every day how much the program helped the low income families as well as those without insurance. I was a part of a woman who had cancer and came into our office to get on the local Medicaid program and go through cancer treatment. I've seen numerous times lower income individuals be able to get their diabetic medication only because they are on Medicaid. Over and over and over throughout all of these years I've seen first hand how Medicaid helps. I have a friend who died from oral cancer and he needed the IHSS program and hospice to serve him until his death. I have a family currently only my caseload whose 19 year old son has a rare disorder and they'd be lost without the Medicaid program helping them as it takes both his mom and dad to care for him. He no longer can walk and needs 24 hour care, with tubes coming out from all over him to keep him alive, but they are doing it because of the help of the Medicaid program. Please don't cut any of the services of Medicaid. It's a program that is vital to so, so many people. Their very lives and well-being depend on it. It's actually a program that I was very proud of being a part of because we could help so many. We couldn't help everyone, but when I was a Medicaid worker we helped so many who without the services would have gone without their basic health needs being met. Please don't cut the Medicaid program. So many people not only depend on it but family member are blessed by it to keep their very lives going. Thank you for listening to my story.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Carol Burrack

Name

Visalia, Tulare County

City or County

93277

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a single mom of a down syndrome daughter who I care for full time. She is on medicaid which provides her medical needs, Dr. appts., dentist appts., and her many prescriptions for many medical needs she has. She is in a day program provided by the regional center to give her a purpose for each day. I can not work full time since my responsibility is caring for her many needs, which my source of income is IHSS provided by medicaid which I am so very grateful. She would not receive the medical support she so desperately needs without her insurance being Medicaid..I pray and ask as her mom please do not CUT the much needed funding towards Medicaid for ourselves and so many other families needing this help. Thank you for all your consideration in this most urgent need. Blessings, Cheryl Bush

Sincerely,

Cheryl Bush

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92620

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter receives medical ins. for her many medical needs from Medicaid, attends a day program giving her independence, rides shared transportation. I am a single mom caring for her daily needs, personal care, physical care, driving to various Dr. appts., and different activities, My income caring for her is provided by IHSS services, which allows us to live in a apt., daily needs and food. I am thankful for the help we receive thru medicaid, please do not cut funding for the many needs for the disabled and families.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Bush

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92620

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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June 21, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please Don't take my insurance. I won't be able to see the doctor or get medicine. please consider how it will impact our ~~lives~~ lives.

Thank you!!!

Sincerely,

Teresa Cabral

Name

ESCALON

City or County

95320

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



July 14 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

I Don't want My Bennefits cut Because that would Take my Independence such as my Medical Coverage I want to keep my coverage. I Live on my own in my own Apartment so I Don't want them to take that away From me.

As For my Medical coverage I need this Because I need it Because of my dental, vission & Medical Appointment too so that is why I am say NO to the Health Care Reform Act 1628

And By the way I am mentally Disabled too.

Sincerely,

Timothy Cabral

Name

Stockton - SAN Joaquin

City or County

95219

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/20/2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please Do ~~not~~ CUT Funding
FOR ~~our~~ Medical,
our Access to NECESSARY
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT depends
on it.

Sincerely,

angela caldas

Name

stockton, ca.

City or County

95209

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Because of Medicaid my son has a Purpose in life, he attends a Day Program which is specific to meeting his needs, he looks forward to attending and learning with other who are challenged as well, they see no difference, he has learned to be more independent, self sufficient in certain areas of his life. if the funding is cut he loses not us, i want to know that when i pass my son will have skills to be indepentant, I can't imagine where my son would be with out all the help he receives from Central Valley Regional Center, and IHSS, this would be Detrimental to all the hard work that's been done to help our young adults feel that they matter, they have a purpose, they can be the best. there are so many speicalist that know what he needs and what medication works best, please don't take away my childs future, he deserves to life with all the supports medicaid has to offer him. you would do the same for your child.

Sincerely,

Sandy Calderon

Name

Selma, Fresno County

City or County

93662

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/19/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

As a divorced single mom to a 5 year old with cerebral palsy, I was scared for what my future would look like as I got divorced. I knew I had to go back to work to make a supplemental income but with all the doctors and therapy appointments my son had I needed to only be able to work a part time schedule. Even with child support, the cost of living in CA is still pretty steep.

Then I found out about IHSS (In Home Support Services) that is a benefit available here in California. It pays me as his parent to assist my son with his daily tasks, like dressing, feeding, etc. My son qualifies for IHSS through a waiver from the Regional Center. The monies our family receives from IHSS ensures that I can care for my son in my home. With my part time job, IHSS and my child support, all these monies equal the salary I used to make when I could afford to work full time in my industry.

Although as a parent I ensure that my son is fed, clothed and educated, caring for him by myself is a struggle some days. He needs my assistance for all regular tasks that typical kids can start to do for themselves, even playing. Having these funds ensures that I can give him a childhood that is comfortable with a stable home environment that allows him to stay in our home.

Sincerely,

Arianne Campbell

Name

Woodland Hills, Los Angeles County

City or County

91364

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter with a great sense of urgency and as a Regional Center Services Coordinator, as an advocate for persons with developmental disabilities and mental health needs, and as a parent of a child with developmental disabilities. Regional centers are nonprofit private corporations that contract with the Department of Developmental Services to provide or coordinate services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities. They have offices throughout California to provide a local resource to help find and access the many services available to individuals and their families.

For the past 5 decades individuals with co-occurring developmental disabilities and mental health conditions have been able to live a high quality life in communities across the U.S. with the support of programs funded through Medicaid. These programs have allowed people to receive critical services including physical health care, quality behavioral health services, staff support in group homes, direct support staff to train individuals to gain the skills needed to get and keep jobs, and receive services required to live as independently as possible in every state in the U.S. These services have prevented thousands upon thousands of people with significant disabilities from needing more costly institutional services or becoming homeless.

While there are many aspects of the Affordable Care Act that might need revision, many of the proposals in the American Health Care Act (AHCA) will have a devastating impact on services that are so critical to the lives of people with disabilities. For example, while the concept of Medicaid per capita caps might look appealing, the reductions of funding immediately and compounded over time will result in service reductions that will lead to poorer health and exacerbated mental health conditions that will ultimately cost more money. Reduced community supports will create greater reliance on institutional care, rolling back 50 years of movement away from large institutions to community-based services. The indisputable fact is that a loss of home and community-based services would be

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



devastating to children and adults with disabilities.

Medicaid funds more than 75% of supports and services to people with disabilities in the U.S. in addition to health care. This federal/state partnership has been incredibly effective. A change in this partnership will jeopardize services such as mental health care for this population, adequate staff in homes in the community along with many others. Other programs that will be hurt by these cuts are special education programs, community based day programs, work assist programs, and many other quality of life programs.

Paul Ryan in his very moving speech following the tragic shootings in Virginia spoke about being united in our humanity. I urge you to take a serious look at the provisions in the American Health Care Act and what its impact will be not only on people with developmental disabilities and their families but on everyone who relies on Medicaid for services. America can and must do better.

Thank you for your consideration. If you would like to discuss these concerns more fully, please contact me.

Christine Sookne, Service Coordinator and Advocate for people with developmental disabilities

[REDACTED]
Ukiah, CA 95482
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kausha King my son Christian Campbell is a 20 year old disabled young man. Christian suffers from cerebral palsy, seizure disorder, chronic lung disease. He is tube fed, suctioned up to 16-20 times per day to help with keeping his lungs clear of fluid. He has a special bed, nebulizer for lung treatments, vest machine to help keep his lungs clear. He takes 15 medications 2x daily. He has had over 10 surgeries in the last 9 years and suffers from many other underlining health conditions.

Christian does not walk or talk. He is dependent on others for all of his needs. He is often hospitalized and requires nursing level care at home. He needs services such as Regional Center, California Children's Services, Medi-cal. He has to attend a County level school setting with a nurse. When Christian was born we were told that he would not live past the age of 3 years old. He is now 20 years old and thriving due to all of the services and support from the systems I have listed above. It would be devastating if the services that have kept him alive for the last 17 years were taken away from him.

His quality of life is as valuable as in other person whether disabled or not. It is harmful to take away services and access to systems that is essentially keeping him alive. Changing the current healthcare system is dangerous and costly to millions of lives. There are millions of other children and adults with disabilities that will all be affected with these drastic changes that are proposed.

How will my son have a fighting chance at life? If he does not have access to the services and systems that can provide him with what he needs. Think about what this means to millions of families and most importantly what this means to our most vulnerable population. I ask you to truly think about what quality of life means to you and choose to fight against the proposed language in the new

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



proposed health care bill. My son's quality of life hangs in the balance and you can do something to change that.

Sincerely,

Christian Campbell

Name

Concord, Contra Costa County

City or County

94520

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Bobby, is 34 years old and born with cerebral palsy and has had multiple medical issues throughout his life. We as a family depend on the contributions from Medi-Cal for his health care needs. The special needs population are the ones who need this help the most. As a family, my son at his age cannot obtain insurance on his own due to his multiple pre-existing medical conditions; and we as a family cannot afford the high cost of private medical insurance, even IF my son qualified. The old, poor, and disabled members of our community also have a human right to have access to quality health care. This population is not self-sufficient, they cannot work to support themselves, and are totally dependent on Medi-Cal to meet their medical needs. Why cut the spending from the special needs population who cannot voice their concerns? EVERYONE regardless of their ability to contribute to society deserves the most basic human right to seek healthcare. It angers me that people in government find it so easy to negatively impact our most vulnerable citizens. The purpose of Medi-Cal IS to supply the medical needs of citizens who are in need. We as a society have lost our compassion. We must do better to help serve these people. Be mindful - it could be you someday.

Sincerely,

Colleen Campbell

Name

Paradise, Butte County

City or County

95969

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a disabled voter and I don't want the US Senators to vote for this bill to cut Medicaid. Please VOTE NO! It would affect my Health Insurance, equipment to get around my work (I am an artist who has Regional Center services that would also be impacted. It would affect not only me but also the millions of others, Children, Adults and Seniors with all types of disabilities throughout the US. Please don't cut our Healthcare & Services! Please don't vote for anything that would remove or cut our services! Thank You!

Sincerely,

Nicolas Canales

Name

Lynwood, Los Angeles County

City or County

90262

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son Ty is a 31 year old man with Autism. The Regional Center, with my Medicaid dollars, pays for his efforts to attain independence. Through Medicaid my son and I can afford medications, and my son gets job coaching and other assistance that allows him to live in his own apartment and contribute to his community. All of this help we desperately need, will be lost under the current administration's plan to dismember Medicaid. Please vote no to this billionaire tax bailout, your job depends on it.

Sincerely,

Patrick Cannon

Name

Laguna Beach, Orange County

City or County

92651

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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7-22-17

Date

To whom it may concern,

We need full funding for Medical & Medicaid here in California and throughout the US to continue essential services for our children with special needs.

I have an adult daughter with Down Syndrome and I receive

IT'SS to provide care for her.

Without it, the state would have to pay untold millions to have her in residential care. We need to

fully fund medical & Medicare

Sincerely,

AMANDA CAREER'S

Name

Colati, Sonoma CO

City or County

94931

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



June 21 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please don't take my insurance away.
It will affect my health and my every-
day living. Without medicaid I won't be
able to see the doctor, get medications
or any other services. It will lessen
my quality of life. Please reconsider
taking medicaid away.

Sincerely,

David Carroll

Name

MANTICA-CA-

City or County

95334

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

DP Sir PP (a.r.r.u.thp)



6-21-2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLP ASP Dont + app away
mp et laid an imballa and
pl pass Dona + app and
pay program and away an
and car phone and school

Sincerely,

DP Sir PP (a.r.r.u.thp)

Name

Stockton California

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 26 year old son has Cerebral Palsy and requires 24/7 care. If it were not for Medicaid he would not have Home Health Care that allows my sons to stay living with me and be surrounded by his family. I work out of the home so I rely on LVNs that come into the home and care for my son while I cannot be there. I firmly believe having Medicaid cover the costs for this home health care has helped my son stay healthier than he would have been if he had been placed in a long term facility. He has access to the things he loves, music, movies and being in the presence of family and friends. My some smiles when he hears the familiar voices of his family and he gets undivided attention and undivided care. Even the doctor's say they can tell he is well taken care of, but that would not be the case if he was in a long term care facility where the staff to patient ratios are not the same as what we can offer at home. I firmly believe my son would not thrive in such an institution as he does at home, with loved ones...only possible because Medicaid covers the nursing care for him to stay living in the home.

Sincerely,

Rachel Casarez

Name

Fullerton, Orange County

City or County

92832

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Lorna Catford [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 8:25 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Medicaid is Crucial for our Family

We were going to have 2 "perfect" kids.

But then our second daughter decided to humble us and show us a different perspective.

Now 23 years old, our daughter caught us totally off guard when she turned out to be medically fragile with serious respiratory and internal issues, and without much muscle control, so she can't talk, walk, eat, or do things for herself. She needs 24/7 nursing care and considerable medical equipment.

She doesn't just stay home like a blob. She can see, think, feel like anyone, and has found ways to communicate to some extent. She loves going for walks, swimming, listening to music and being with people. She has a full life, even though medical procedures fill her time too.

Until she was age 18 we received nursing coverage and some medical supplies and services from Medicaid. This allowed us to keep her at home, in our community, around people who appreciated and cared for her, and saving the government thousands of dollars (if she had to live in an institution).

When she turned 21 our Medicaid support was cut back. Some supplies are still covered, but not so many, and not her nursing. I have retired and take care of her more now. Which means money is tighter. Also, my husband (retiring this year) and I are not getting any younger. We already are suffering a decrease in Medicaid.

MEDICAID WAS A LIFESAVER, ESSENTIAL TO KEEP OUR CHILD I OUR COMMUNITY, AND IN THE LONG RUN ECONOMICAL FOR THE GOVERNMENT. Our family are just four out of hundreds of thousands of people whose lives you will ruin if you defund Medicaid.

Since you don't believe in national medicine that has been shown to work so extremely well in most civilized countries, at least keep Medicaid!

Thank you.
Dr. Lorna Catford
Forestville, Sonoma County, California.



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is 11 and has autism. He will never be able to live by himself without support, and will be needing Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Cavanaugh

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95834

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



4-20-2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DON'T CUT ARE PROGRAMS
AND DON'T TAKE ARE MED-CAL

Sincerely,

ALEJANDRA CETA

Name

MANTECA - SAN JUAN COUNTY

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/5/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I write to you on behalf of my two sons. Eric 26, & Mark 20 years old. Both diagnosed with Autism. When you vote on this upcoming health bill please consider my children's and the impact it will have on their quality of life. Losing funded service would hurt them and leave them with no safe programs, and medical services. I hope you can find the courage to fight for my sons.

Sincerely,

Paula Ceja

Name

Santa Ana, Orange County

City or County

92706

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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July 24, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I work for a regional center, that serves over 18,000 people with developmental disabilities. That's over 18,000 stories in just 6 counties of California. Everyday I see individuals with developmental disabilities who are able to live and work in their communities because of Medicaid funding. The misconception that people receiving Medicaid are lazy and just need to "pull themselves up by their bootstraps" is disheartening. For some people with disabilities, Medicaid is the bootstrap. Rather than looking at it as a hammock, it is more of a scaffolding that supports these people to achieve their fullest potential. Because of Medicaid, someone with an intellectual disability, autism, epilepsy and/or cerebral palsy can be provided with job coaching, day programs, residential care, IHSS, behavioral support services, therapies, and many other supports and services that keep them from being marginalized and put in institutions. Please consider the most vulnerable people, who often don't have a voice, when making decisions that would drastically affect their care and treatment. They've come to far to be pushed back into the dark corners of society.

Sincerely,

Shelley Celaya

Name

Fresno, Fresno County

City or County

93705

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

It matters to me, as a parent of 12-year old son who has been diagnosed as autistic, this program is essential in getting all the help and therapies he needs which will continually guide him through lifelong process of shaping him to become a functioning member in this society.

Sincerely,

Ryan Cha

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92620

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Ethan, has Autism. He needs 20 hours of weekly ABA therapy paid by Medi-Cal. My spouse's employer is self funded, and chose not to cover Autism ABA therapy. Without Medi-Cal my son would not get this research proven therapy to help him learn skills so he can go to school and someday work and pay taxes. Due to his care needs, I can only work a couple of days per weeks and do not receive insurance.

I've requested my Representative to vote against repeal of the ACA.

I'm also a nurse and see daily at the inner city hospital all the people who will lose healthcare and fill our ER's with cough/cold/flu and other preventable illnesses that could have been handled in an office if they had insurance. No one in their right mind wants to see the ER's filled up preventing true emergencies from getting in.

Sincerely,

Daphne Chakurian , RN, BDN, PHN, CCM

Name

Roseville, Placer County

City or County

95747

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter has autism and intellectual disability. She is living a more functional and meaningful life in the community because she receives funding from regional center to pay for respite, afterschool care, behavioral services, as well as funding for medi-cal and IHSS services. The funds for these services are made available through Medicaid. It's important Medicaid remains in place to assure the funding and the services and my daughter dependence can continue. I am requesting my representatives hear my mesesage and support my daughters' needs and rights.

Sincerely,

Peter Chan

Name

Fremont, Alameda County

City or County

94536

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is very important to our family! We have two family members with disabilities whose medical care are made possible by Medicaid. My 85 year-old mother-in-law who had multiple fractures and became bed ridden two years ago could no longer stay in her own home with in-home support and had to enter a nursing home facility. Another member is our adult son born with developmental disabilities. We covered his medical care with our employer's insurance until his twenties and currently Medicaid is his only health insurance coverage.

Sincerely,

Esther Chow

Name

Alameda, Alameda County

City or County

94501

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Regional center has helped me get and keep a job through goodwill industries where I work at tj max. It has helped me with respit hours so that I can attend YMCA events and in a few months when I turn 26 I will no longer be on my dads medical insurance so I will use Medicaid. It's very important for me to have insurance because I am s type 1 diabetic and have been hospitalized twice, require monthly visits to an endocrinologist, many prescriptions, and regular appointments with a podiatrist to make sure my feet are ok. Without Medicaid there will be no way I can afford these things and my health will be endangered. Please continue to fund mediicaid!

Sincerely,

Brittney Christensen

Name

Fountain valley, Orange County

City or County

92708

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/17/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the mother a of 25 year old son with Autism. He will never be capable of having a job that provides health insurance. Nor will he ever have the ability to find any kind of health care on his own. Medicaid is the only health insurance he has. Who will pay for his care from doctors, specialists, and hospitals, as well as prescriptions?

California, like all states, also receives Medicaid funding to help pay for the cost of long-term supports that people with developmental disabilities receive. As a Regional Center client, Medicaid will help pay for it when the time comes for my son. Medicaid currently pays approximately half the cost of many community services through Regional Centers.

Hundreds of thousands of Californians with developmental disabilities depend on Medicaid – or will need it in the future – to remain healthy, live in the community, and stay out of costly institutions. I am terrified he will not be taken care of and wind up homeless or worse.

Sincerely,

Shawn Christopherson

Name

Chico, Butte County

City or County

95926

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My friends Anthony and Lisa Leoni depend on Medicaid, Medi-cal and In Home Support services to care for their daughter Jessica. Jessie is profoundly disabled from Niemann-pic Type C disease and she requires special around the clock care. Both Anthony and Lisa work full time but without assistance they could not afford to keep Jessie at home. Please do not cut the money for these important programs.

Sincerely,

Robin Ciabattari

Name

Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

City or County

95404

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a disabled grandmother raising my three grandsons. Without medicaid/medical I would not be able to make it. Our yearly income is \$20,000.00. I filed for the VA disability their father was receiving since 2009 when he deserted the family of six. Both parents abused pills he was getting from the VA. The youngest passed away in 2011. My daughter turned to heroin. I have raised the kids for 2 1/2 yrs. Their father didn't pay child support since 2009, no medical and no dental.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Cirujano

Name

Roseville, Placer County

City or County

95678

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a genetic disease called Fragile X. I am developmental disabled. I am on Medicaid and am in the regional center of Orange County, California. I am able to work part time and contribute to society because of the support I receive from the regional center. I will be able to live independently due to the services I get through the regional center. I am able to see the Dr. Because I have Medicaid. Please don't take my support services away from me. My goal is to live independently like most people. Without support services I will not be able to live on my own.

Sincerely,

Mary Cocco

Name

San Clemente, Orange County

City or County

92672

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter has Down Syndrome and relies on lifelong Medicaid services to provide medical and life supports. Please do not cut Medicaid benefits to people with intellectual disabilities

Sincerely,

Cathy Cohen
Name

Alhambra CA
City or County

95603
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/11/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 6 year old was diagnosed with Autism in 2013 and Epilepsy in 2016 . Many of the services my child needs ie: Behavioral therapy, doctor visits , medication are funded through medi-caid. My family , my child will suffer tremendously if medi-caid is cut from him . There are many supplements, different types of educational programs he currently has due to funding from medi-caid. This helps our family stay self-sufficient and not homeless living with my parents in a tiny room . Cutting funds from medi-caid will:

- 1) increase his visits to the doctor because I won't be able to buy him his medication (too expensive)
- 2) Increase destructive negative behavior due to loss of in home therapy
- 3) Puts my child and the rest of our family at risk for hunger , homelessness , & poverty.

Even though I work 50-60 hours a week , I barely make enough to pay my monthly rent of 1550\$, gas, electric, internet, car payment, car insurance, necessities for myself/children . I don't qualify for food stamps because I make too much . IHSS and SSI my son receives , helps us in more ways than one. His stipend/allowance from medi-caid gives our family independence , security , and strength . Please , please reconsider this!! Think about how many autistic children that will be affected when this happens. I worked very hard to get the services my child needs . And for the federal government to reform healthcare, and cut funding for disabled people/children/adults is cruel, inhumane, and disgusting! These individuals are the weakest most vulnerable part of our human society. If you take this funding away, so many children , adolescent , elderly individuals will be poverty stricken .

Thank you for your time

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Regina Colchado

Name

Pacoima, Los Angeles County

City or County

91331

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



6/19/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 23 year old son Michael has high functioning autism, but does not qualify for state Regional Center services or disability. He functions well enough to work part time at a minimum wage job and meet some of his basic needs, but may likely never live independently, requiring family financial support. His prospects for full employment are very limited which would preclude him from health care coverage, which is crucial as he has type 1 diabetes. As parents we will continue to cover his health care until he is 26 under the ACA, and if MediCal expansion continues he could transition to MediCal at age 26. If the ACA is abolished he now has a pre-existing, life threatening chronic condition, and limited means for self insurance. We have no idea what his health care coverage would exist of, or cost without this important safety net.

Sincerely,

Michael Cole

Name

Huntington Beach, Orange County

City or County

92649

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Yes, Medicaid help me, also I have a head injury, I never thought I would be the person, I am today Medicaid paid for the services I needed, Medicaid help me pay for my medicines. We the people need Medicaid, if it gets taken away, it will hurt seniors and people that need it.

Sincerely,

Pilar Cole

Name

San Bernardino, San Bernardino County

City or County

92346

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/31/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have three severely handicapped sons ages 23, 21, and 18 all three of my sons count on Medicaid services to continue to live at home with us. The IHSS hours we receive allow them to continue living at home with the best care my husband and I can provide. They live here at home happy even with all of their round the clock care and challenges medicaid IHSS and prescription services keep us from institutionalizing our sons and costing the state much more money, if we lose the services we now have in place I fear we will no longer be able to afford or care for our boys at home and we would be forced to put them in residential facilities that in the long run would cost much more than the hours we receive to keep our sons healthy and home where they are loved and cared for.

Sincerely,

Lori Collins

Name

Visalia, Tulare County

City or County

93277

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I adopted 2 special needs children. Both very ill. and in fact one has passed away. Some years the children were so ill that over 100 doctor appointments were needed along with multiple hospital stays. Although I was working and so was my ex husband the drain and strain of adopting 2 special needs children was huge. However - because they had medi-caid at least we knew medical care would be provided without worry. We loved them both and they both benefited from being in our home vs a board in care or some other group home. Medi-caid made it possible for us to provide a loving home for children that needed it. The children in fact had no idea how important this benefit was to them, but believe me having two special needs children with a progressive disease was more than any family could have managed without help.

We are so grateful for the services provided to our family under the medi-caid program.

Sincerely,

Deidre Conkling

Name

Lake Forrest, Orange County

City or County

92609

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/08/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I want you to vote no for the federal Medicaid. A no vote would be appreciated

Sincerely,

Jay Conner

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92869

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I live with my brother and he gets so many hours to take care of me. I couldn't afford to lose health insurance.

Sincerely,

Jay Connor

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92869

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



6/9/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-cal matters to me (Which is California's version of Medicaid) because without it I would not have access to necessary attendant care that helps me stay not only healthy but also active in my community as a person and advocate for people who have developmental disabilities. I also believe that Medicaid and its waivers are an alternative to expensive institutional types of care.

Sincerely,

Lisa Cooley

Name

Rancho Cordova, Sacramento County

City or County

95742

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

Dr. Ami Bera
1431 Longworth House Office Building.
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2017

Dear Congressman Bera,

A percentage of my issues related to ACA have to do with physical access issues due to a lifelong disability called cerebral palsy. I am more than adequately covered by Medi-Cal and Medicare, however, when I go to the doctor, I have problems physically getting into exam rooms and on exam tables, and I cannot get the necessary women's healthcare that I need to stay healthy, such as pap smears and mammograms.

Please increase access to personal assistance services so millions of adults with disabilities won't have to choose working for a competitive wage or the attendant care they need to maintain their independence. Because they have to choose between working and independence, most of them would choose to keep their attendant care and no person with a disability should have to make that choice. In California, if you have a lifelong disability, most people qualify for in-home supportive services (IHSS). IHSS requires people to have Medi-Cal. If you work, most people's wages are too high to get Medi-Cal, so they have to make a choice between working and contributing to society or keeping their Medi-Cal and staying home and being dependant on the state.

Increasing access to Medi-Cal and Medicaid would mean that millions of Americans would not only have insurance access but physical access to the care they need, because most medical facilities at least in Sacramento, have physical access outside the building, but once you get into the building—most buildings are too small to effectively navigate with a wheelchair and are inaccessible for wheelchair users, such as exam tables and scales to get weighed.

Sincerely,

Lisa Marie Cooley

[REDACTED]
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742
[REDACTED]



7/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My brother-in-law Anthony and his wife Lisa are recipients of Medicaid, Medi-Cal, and In-Home Support Services for their daughter Jessica. Jessica is living with a horrific neuro-degenerative disease called Neimann-Pick Type C. This disease has robbed my niece Jessica of her abilities to eat, walk, talk, and take care of herself. She suffers from seizures, and is prone to pulmonary issues.

The government funds that assist Anthony's family, and the In-Home assistance that has been made available to them allows both Anthony and Lisa to continue to hold down jobs so that they may maintain their own and Jessica's healthcare plans, as well as pay their mortgage and other household expenses. But primarily, these government benefits allow them to be available to spend quality time with their precious daughter and to be a family; without the devastating effects of exhaustion by being Jessica's primary caregivers.

Jessica's light is able to shine because she is well taken care of and given love by her family.

The loss of any of the services which Jessica currently receives would be devastating to her family and dangerous to Jessica's well-being.

PLEASE vote AGAINST any cuts to these services that Jessica and others receive. Doing so would assure that those who benefit from these services can continue to thrive, and that their families may continue to be strong so that they may have the energy to fight the fight for their loved one's lives.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Joseph Cornacchio

Name

Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

City or County

95404

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Maria Coronel , I have a beautiful intelligent son , Nicholas he has Autism and thanks to the Regional Center Nicholas has been able to enjoy being part of our community. Regional center has funded, social skills classes, behavioral therapy, Aid support services that would allow Nicholas to attend after school programs and community outing with typical peer children , that would help him to socialized and inter act with the community and his family. Every family that has children, friends, family members relative etc, Have benefited in the most out positive standard Medicaid funds, so it is with a heavy heart I have decided to write a little about my son in order for congress to understand these funds are not going to waist.

Sincerely,

Maria Coronel

Name

Whittier, Los Angeles County

City or County

90604

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

hello my name is Robin Cottini I am in a wheel chair with out FarNorthern and ihss I will be homeless with care I need 24 hr care I am not able to care for my self with some one take care of my every day needs please keep the programs and like FNRC ihss there is such a need please

Sincerely,

Robin Cottini

Name

Oroville, Butte County

City or County

95965

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

hello my name is Robin Cottini I am in a wheel chair with out FarNorthern and ihss I will be homeless with care I need 24 hr care I am not able to care for my self with some one take care of my every day needs please keep the programs and like FNRC ihss there is such a need please

Sincerely,

Robin Cottini

Name

Oroville, Butte County

City or County

95965

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 25, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

We adopted our amazing daughter shortly after birth, and it was the best day of my life. It was also the scariest. She suffered a brain hemorrhage shortly after birth and was at risk for basically every developmental challenge that exists. Despite the challenges that lay ahead, we knew she was meant to be ours, and our lives were thrust into a totally different universe. I never planned on being a stay-at-home mom. I had been highly invested in my career. But when Lena arrived, the stark realization of our altered life hit hard. Lena has Cerebral Palsy, severe hearing loss, intellectual disability and speech delays. Her disabilities affect her executive, gross and fine motor functions. She attends Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Behavioral Therapy and Educational Therapy on a weekly basis. Regional Center gave her an amazing start in life, providing vital therapies introduced early in life. They supported an Early Intervention program prior to preschool that was the only reason my daughter could later function in preschool. Without the support of Regional Center in the beginning, I cannot even imagine where Lena's progress would be. IHSS has allowed me to be stay-at-home caregiver for our daughter. Lena's therapies are interactive, and they require cross-coordination and repetition at home and elsewhere. I would not be able to manage her needs effectively without the support of IHSS. It's absolutely essential in allowing me to support my daughter in becoming as functional and independent as she can be. And as a product of the CA foster care system, she could have easily been institutionalized in a group home, to be fully supported by the state until her last dependent days. The programs she receives with support of Regional Center, IHSS and CCS have allowed her to defy medical expectations. Every day, we work towards a functional future, where she can contribute to this state one day. But she will always need assistance. She will never be 100% independent. She will always be vulnerable. I think about her as an adult, and wonder if I will need to worry about her civil rights being revoked every 4 years, with the swing of party takeover? Will I worry about her being kicked out of housing and into an

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



institution? Will she lose essential caregiver hours, which will force her to live in an institution? Is her life really less precious than yours?

Sincerely,

Lindsay Crain

Name

Culver City , Los Angeles County

City or County

90232

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Without Medicaid I would lose everything: My health, my medicine, my wheelchair, and aids/caregivers, my regional counselor. Under Medicaid everything I absolutely need is covered. Without it I am unable to live on my own. It would cost more money to do that. Without medicaid I would be put in a state hospital or nursing home. That is not something I want to experience for the rest of my life.

Sincerely,

Michael Crew

Name

Culver City, Los Angeles County

City or County

90232

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE reconsider proposed cuts to the Federal Medicaid program. I am employed at one of California's 21 regional centers (Westside RC, www.westsiderc.org), and we provide an array of services for clients with developmental disabilities. Medicaid is not only crucial for providing much-needed health-related services for these individuals, it is also the backbone of all 21 regional centers' funding. The proposed cuts would SIGNIFICANTLY impact our population's quality of life and put their overall health and well-being in jeopardy. The cuts would also impact all regional centers' ability to provide services for this population. Please consider the disabled and elderly Americans who depend on Medicaid for health and quality of life.

Sincerely,

Patricia Crook

Name

San Pedro, Los Angeles County

City or County

90731

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/13/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My adult son has autism and needs Medicaid to continue to provide the services he needs. We urge Washington leaders to not approve to repeal or replace Obamacare. The developmentally disabled population will suffer greatly without Medicaid and any of its changes as my son will not have the ability to obtain affordable care given his existing disability without assistance from the government or family financial support. Doctor visits and prescriptions are crucial to provide him with the care he needs.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Cruz

Name

South San Francisco, San Mateo County

City or County

94080

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6-8-2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-Cal is good for me. If I didn't have Medi-Cal, I would not be able to see the doctor. Because of my disabilities, I cannot work fulltime; therefore, I cannot afford to pay for private health care. If I don't have my medications, I would not be able to work even part-time and then would require more supports. I am very grateful to have Medi-Cal because it helps me contribute to and be a more active part of the community.

Sincerely,

Clara Cuffiss (Clara Curtiss)

Name

Suisun City

City or County

94585

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Dantas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:56 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters to Me

Medicaid matters to me because with IHSS I can take care of my son. Sean is 22 and has moderate autism. He needs 24/7 supervision. If I had to work, I would have to pay someone to watch him and there would probably not be much of my paycheck left over. With IHSS, I can stay home and give him the best care and supervision. Not only that, but if something were to happen to me and Sean's dad, Sean would have IHSS already put into place so Sean could go to a supported living residence. It gives me peace of mind to know that Sean is taken care of and has supports in place.

Diane Dantas, Cypress, Orange County



4/30/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I adopted three children from the foster care system. Had I not had Medicaid I would not have been able to do it. Now that I am 73 and on Medicare, I would not be able to continue to raise these children and pay the extra co-pay for my health care. In short we would not be able to survive without Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Olivia de la Garza

Name

Victorville, San Bernardino County

City or County

92395

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

In 2015 my niece was in a roll over vehicle accident that ejected her from a vehicle causing a spinal cord injury. She is now paralyzed from the chest down and relies on her mother to assist her in activities of daily living such showing, mobility, travel to and from doctor appointments, grooming and using the restroom. My niece had just graduated from high school. Her parents are both hard working Americans who pay their taxes and rarely see a return. My sister who is my nieces is mother had to quit her job to care for my niece all around the clock. My brother in law works full time as an IT technician for school district. My sister has resigned from her job to care for niece. Because of In Home Support Services, my sister can get paid for health care she provides to my niece. This year when they filed for taxes, they owed money. But, we are grateful for Medicaid not only because of the IHSS services but because of the costly medical expenses that are covered. Catheters, prescription medication, a wheelchair, mobility devices and other medical supplies are covered by Medicaid. These are hard working people who did nothing to create this life changing event. It's a reminder that it could happen to anyone, what would you want for your family in these circumstances?

Sincerely,

Inez de Ocio

Name

Visalia, Tulare County

City or County

93277

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My brother has a diagnosis of Schizo-Affective disorder. He's 44 and resides at a locked facility in Santa Clara County. He would be homeless if he couldn't live there because he is unable to care for himself or be independent. His medication and mental health care are entirely funded through Medicaid. If he didn't have that benefit, he would definitely end on homeless or incarcerated.

Sincerely,

Victoria Debenham

Name

El Dorado Hills, El Dorado County

City or County

95762

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have two adopted children from the County of Orange, Ca. I now live in San Joaquin County, Ca. Medicaid was part of the adoption in the event we lost our own coverage. My husband died suddenly, and once the Cobra expired I found that I needed the Medicaid provided to them. One child that is 14 has a Supra cerebellar cyst in his brain, and has a shunt and is a DD kid. My older child is now 22 and was born with cerebral palsy, has now developed chrons and scoliosis. I'm trying to figure out what kind of country we have become. A very mean one.

Sincerely,

Anne Deffebach

Name

Lathrop, San Joaquin County

City or County

95330

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/5/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Gus, has quadraplegic cerebral palsy. He cannot use his hands effectively, and his speech is hard to understand. With all this, Gus is an intelligent and engaging young man. Regional Center provides services for Gus six hours per day so he can have a personal aide to help him eat, use the toilet, and, most importantly, attend college to achieve his goal of obtaining a bachelor's degree in environmental science so he can join the workforce and make a positive difference in the world. I need to work to support our family of two, and the services allow me to do so. The services give Gus an opportunity to have a meaningful life instead of being confined to his home or institutionalized. The services make the difference between a good life or a wasted life for Gus.

Sincerely,

Martha Degasis

Name

Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County

City or County

93111

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have an 18 year old daughter who is autistic which makes it hard for her to manage her time, interact, socialize, focus, remain safe in community just to name a few deficits. With Medicaid's funded programs with Regional Center of OC, we are able to get respite services which allows for me to get assistance. My daughter is able to interact, go on community outings, be safe & have some sense of normalcy in her life by being with the caregivers/mentors without me always needing to be by her side. The respite workers are more than caregivers. They are an integral part in promoting compassion to people with special needs like my daughter. Please do not cut the programs for people with disability. My daughter with developmental disability, PDD NOS, Autism, Turner Syndrome was born this way, it is not her fault she needs additional services that a "normal" Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

Christine Del Mundo

Name

Westminster, Orange County

City or County

92683

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is 29 years old. He was born with a a on his left side. He has benefited from his cal optimum medical assistance since birth. After being told he would never walk or talk at six months, Sean with the help of the county assistance programs and support eventually graduated from high school walking and talking. He is truly an amazing young man. At the age of 22 he had a hyper thyroid storm and is now a quadriplegic and can no longer speak. He is currently continuing treatment with the help again through county and cal optimum. He would not survive without this wonderful program. He is one of millions that have quality life because of medicaid. Why anyone would want to reduce this financial support is beyond my comprehension. God help him and so many others who continue to be blessed with this wonderful USA humanity aid. Please reconsider cutting this program> Medicaid is a life line for my son and countless others. Thank you for you listening ear and heart. Now go and vote for humanity.

Sincerely,

Leila Deliman

Name

Placentia, Orange County

City or County

92811

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/5/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 89 year-old mother lives with us. In order for us to go to work, she has to attend an adult day care that is paid for by Medi-Cal. We would not be able to afford her day care, and if it weren't for Medi-Cal one of us would not be able to go to work. That would affect our livelihood completely, as we need two incomes in order to pay for our home and other needs. My mother does not have any means to support herself, so we support her. However, having Medi-Cal has been a blessing to us because, in addition to paying for her day care, it also pays for her Medicare insurance and that is how we ensure that she gets the best care possible. Medicare is how she is able to see her doctor and is what pays for the medications to keep her alive and thriving. Medicare is what has paid for her hospitalizations when needed. My husband and I would not be able to afford paying hospital bills and expensive medications for my mother. We would also not be able to afford a private health insurance for my mother. The price of that would be outrageous due to her age and health conditions. Medi-Cal also pays for her care when she is not at the daycare, through the IHSS program. Our family will be affected by the elimination of Medi-Cal, in turn, the economy will be affected because one of us will be unemployed and we might even lose our home as a consequence. My mother's life would be in danger if she doesn't receive the care and medications she needs.

Sincerely,

Elsa Detweiler

Name

Woodlnd Hills, Los Angeles County

City or County

91367

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My only granddaughter was diagnosed with severe autism at age three. She will be eighteen in September. Medicaid coverage and help through the Regional Center is essential because her symptoms are so severe. She requires an aide to be with her at special-ed school every day. Because both parents work, she needs an aide in the home weekdays for 3-4 hours. An ordinary sitter is not an option. As is common in autism, she has serious GI issues which requires hospitalization for bowel obstruction every 12 -18 months. Any medical or dental procedure is more complicated because of autism, and requires sedation or anesthesia and special care. She has periods of extreme anxiety and has also developed OCD behaviors. She must have 24/7 care. My son and daughter-in-law worry about her care after they are gone. Medicare is a crucial safety net especially for those who will always need 24/7 assistance like my beloved granddaughter.

Sincerely,

Bess DeWitt

Name

Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County

City or County

93105

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/30/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter is severely impacted with autism, a lifelong neurodevelopmental order. She will never be able to work and live independently and will always need direct supervision She needs Medicaid to maintain her health and to support her living in the community. As parents, we will not live forever and so we can't take care of her forever. She has no one else who can care for her after we are gone. She will rely on the federal and state funding to take care of her. Please take care of my daughter and do not cut Medicaid funding.

Sincerely,

Mila DeWitt

Name

Napa, Napa County

City or County

94558

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/13/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have been Medicaid dependent for many years due to extremely aggressive disabling Multiple Sclerosis. The advanced stage of my MS makes it necessary for me to have someone with me 24 hours a day. I am completely quadriplegic. I have been since 2001. I met my husband in 1998. He had been my sole provider of care until recently when a Medicaid Waiver Program brought much needed relief. He still provides most of my care, but now has others to help. I am able to stay in my home, an apartment, with him. Without Medicaid services and programs I would likely be relinquished to a Nursing Home to die. I would have no chance to thrive as a human being. I would be housed, fed and kept clean. Occupying a bed amongst others twice my age. I am 42. My MS has taken much from me, and it is affecting my ability to communicate effectively, my husband helped me to overcome the developmental disadvantages that might have made it impossible to truly tell my story. PLEASE do not make any drastic changes to the Medicaid Programs that would adversely affect myself and so many others across this Great Nation. We each, are of infinite worth to society.

Sincerely,

Sabina Diestl

Name

Fremont, Alameda County

City or County

94536

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/12/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hello, about 2 years ago I had major surgery. I can't afford to buy insurance so I'm on Medical. Medical pays for all of my medication and my doctors visits, so I can continue my daily activities. Thank you

Sincerely,

Joe Donabed

Name

Tulare, Tulare County

City or County

93274

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



June 8, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi, my name is Rebecca Donabed. I have a disability and been on medi-medi for a number of years. This helped me by getting my doctors and my wheelchair so that I could be active in my community to help others with disabilities. ~~who do not know what to do.~~

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Have a great day.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Donabed (DMH)

Name

Tulare County

City or County

93274

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son was born 48 years ago without eyes. As a child we thought he was totally blind but that his abilities were intact. Unfortunately as he grew up we realized something else was also wrong. He was diagnosed as having a developmental disability along with his blindness and would never be capable of caring for himself.

Today, thanks to Regional Center, he is able to live in a partially independent environment. He can go to a day program which provides him instruction in activities of daily living, social interaction and one on one instruction on how to use his cell phone which is adapted for the blind. He has the daily needs he is not capable of handling on his own taken care of, and gives us the confidence and security of knowing that his changing needs will be met in the upcoming years and after we, his parents, are no longer alive. Please do not take this away from him by making budget cuts to Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Rozanne Dorman

Name

Laguna Woods, Orange County

City or County

92637

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son name is Keith Dafney, Keith is 19 years old. Keith can not stay at home by himself without assistance. If my son is left without services. I will not be able to work because someone has to stay at home with him when he is not at his childcare center. I didn't use drug when I was pregnant with him it is not my fault he came out with a disability. I would like to continue to be a productive part of society; therefore, I need continued funding.

Sincerely,

Tanya Douglas

Name

Long Beach, Los Angeles County

City or County

90712

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

There should be no cuts to Medicaid Which would affect my services. Health care and equipment, IHSS attendant care, and regional center services adult day program. Because of Medicaid I am able to go to doctors appointments, get necessary prescriptions, and be active in my community. I go three days a week to an adult day program to do art, use computers to write and do computer graphics, and to do exercise and physical therapy.

I was in the hospital and they literally saved my life with surgery. Medicaid is important to my daily life as well as equipment to get around and critical health care.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Drzewiecki

Name

Culver City, Los Angeles County

City or County

90232

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi my name is Ryan Duncanwood, from Redding California. I'm on the national SABE Board, and the ARC of California board.

I have a few things I would like to talk to you about that is very near and dear to my heart. If we make any cuts to Medicaid or SSI it will dramatically lower my quality of life. As you can see I use a speaking device to speak and a wheelchair to get around. With the proposed Medicaid Block Grant or Caps that will cap what a state can spend on a person. If we cap what Medicaid can spend on a person how will people with intellectual and developmental disabilities be able to get the equipment that we need to live a normal life?

The federal and state Medicaid program is the major and sometimes the only source of funding for long term supports and services that many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities rely on to live in the community. This effective and cost efficient program allows people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live and work among their neighbors.

Most people with intellectual and developmental disabilities already don't have enough money to live on our own and we have to live with one or two roommates. Now there is an proposal to cut people's SSI when more than one person with SSI live together. We are already barely getting by.

Here is what needs to happen.

Congress should reject any cuts to Social Security or SSI, including any proposals to cut benefits or limit who can qualify.

Congress should request a beneficiary impact statement on any proposal to change Social Security or SSI, to look beyond budgetary issues to the impact on people's daily lives.

Congress should address the many areas in which improvements are needed in

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



the SSI and Social Security disability programs.

Congress must understand that Medicaid is a necessity to people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families!

Congress should protect the individual entitlement to Medicaid.

Congress should reject reductions or caps to the Medicaid program, and reject any effort to block grant Medicaid.

Congress should address the nation's need for an affordable, accessible system of health care and long term supports and services.

Congress should not repeal the Affordable Care Act without simultaneously replacing it with a law that maintains or improves the coverage, including the long term services and supports change, in the ACA.

Members of Congress should act to remove the institutional bias of federal programs, eliminate waiting lists for long term supports and services, and to strengthen the right to community living for individuals with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ryan Duncanwood

Name

Redding, Shasta County

City or County

96003

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/19/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi my name is Ryan Duncanwood, from Redding California. I'm on the national SABE Board, and the ARC of California board.

I have a few things I would like to talk to you about that is very near and dear to my heart. If we make any cuts to Medicaid or SSI it will dramatically lower my quality of life. As you can see I use a speaking device to speak and a wheelchair to get around. With the proposed Medicaid Block Grant or Caps that will cap what a state can spend on a person. If we cap what Medicaid can spend on a person how will people with intellectual and developmental disabilities be able to get the equipment that we need to live a normal life?

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California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



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Congress should not repeal the Affordable Care Act without simultaneously replacing it with a law that maintains or improves the coverage, including the long term services and supports change, in the ACA.

Members of Congress should act to remove the institutional bias of federal programs, eliminate waiting lists for long term supports and services, and to strengthen the right to community living for individuals with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ryan Duncanwood

Name

Redding, Shasta County

City or County

96003

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/30/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a mother, who is unable to work so I may care for my son who is diagnosed with Autism. My son also has other medical conditions associated with his diagnosis that do require follow-ups and treatment. Since my son has been enrolled with Medicaid we have gotten the opportunity to enroll with In-Home Support Service (IHSS), which has been very helpful to our family. This service is helping to elevate some of our financial costs by allowing me to stay home and receive an income so that I may be able to give my son the proper care and support he needs. With out this service my son would not have the proper opportunity to be cared for. We are very grateful for this support. I urge you with a heavy heart to not remove this assistance from individuals with developmental disabilities as this is very beneficial for their well being. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Dula

Name

Whittier, Los Angeles County

City or County

90604

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/30/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a mother, who is unable to work so I may care for my son who is diagnosed with Autism. My son also has other medical conditions associated with his diagnosis that do require follow-ups and treatment. Since my son has been enrolled with Medicaid we have gotten the opportunity to enroll with In-Home Support Service (IHSS), which has been very helpful to our family. This service is helping to elevate some of our financial costs by allowing me to stay home and receive an income so that I may be able to give my son the proper care and support he needs. With out this service my son would not have the proper opportunity to be cared for. We are very grateful for this support. I urge you with a heavy heart to not remove this assistance from individuals with developmental disabilities as this is very beneficial for their well being. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Dula

Name

Whittier, Los Angeles County

City or County

90604

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/5/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the mother of son who has a rare genetic condition and has been part of GGRC since he was 2 yrs old. He has not only survived for 42 yrs but he has also thrived and lives a fairly independent life with the help of some community services. During his school years I found that I had to advocate for him for the necessary programs but now he is able to advocate for his own needs. He has both medicare (due to his own work history) and medi cal which he is dependent upon for his diabetic care and his low vision issues (RP) as well as 3 back surgeries which has kept him ambulatory. He has many challenges and does cost our government money but he also gives back to our society with his honesty, inspiration and taxes when he is able to work! I don't understand how our government can use our taxes to fund new weapon systems and not care about its own citizens ability to survive. My son will never have a job that pays health benefits but I do feel that health care is a human right for all people not just the healthy and wealthy!

Sincerely,

Barbara Dunn

Name

San Francisco, County of San Francisco

City or County

94134

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the advocate of my 2 special need boys who have Autism, Intellectual Delay and Developmental Delay. Medicaid helps my family so much esp my 2 disable kids in their ABA, OT Therapies and their prescriptions. Without Medicaid, they will not have quality of life as we are low income family. We cannot afford to pay for all the therapies and expensive prescription meds for my 2 boys. Medicaid pays also for the Speech Therapy of my 2 disable kids so with the feeding therapy. Medicaid helps my disabled kids speak and live a quality of life. Without Medicaid They will lose all the Therapies and Pharmacy prescription meds and everything that Medicaid pays and could mean poor quality of life for them.

Sincerely,

Daphne Dunstan

Name

Benicia, Solano County

City or County

94510

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I work for individuals with developmental disabilities through the Westside Regional Center. A large number of the individuals that we serve depend on support they receive through Medicaid. The proposed cuts to Medicaid will be debilitating for the quality of life for the people who receive Medi-Cal, most of whom are already living on a frugal budget. I am vehemently against cutting services that will affect the poor, disabled and elderly so that a wealthy minority can have a large tax break. Please do everything to stop this inhumane legislation.

Sincerely,

Gerard Dupree

Name

Inglewood, Los Angeles County

City or County

90301

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/22/17

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have two uncles with Down Syndrome. When their mother passed away in the mid-90s, they became wards of the state of California. Among other federal and CA specific benefits, Medicaid is critical to their survival. Due to the complicated legal circumstances it is difficult for my aunt to help them with health related issues. If the current state of health care is rolled back, they will not survive. It is life or death for them. Please continue with the current Medicaid structure funding.

Sincerely,

Christina Elliott

Name

Sacramento County

City or County

95655

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Jeana Lynn Eriksen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:58 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Obama healthcare cuts

To whom it may concern:

My name is Jeana Eriksen I live in Santa Rosa California.

I use many different Medi-Cal services. Some of them I use daily some of them monthly. One of these services is called becoming independent. My regional center pays them to work with me on a daily basis. Another service that Medi-Cal pays for is IHSS. Without these two services it would be very difficult for me to live independently in my own home.

In addition Medi-Cal also pays for my medical, dental, services and all of my medications I use daily.

In December 2016 I lost function of my bladder, Medi-Cal paid for my hospital stay as well as my surgery. Without the insurance Medi-Cal, I would not be able to afford this very important surgery which saved my life.

I know that there will be more services in my future that I will need to use, however these are just some of them that I am using right now.

I hope that these services I use will not be eliminated by the cuts to Obama care. Sincerely Jeana Lynn Eriksen California state Council member



June 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I need my medical and Medicare and live in my own house tell those politic to leave Obama care alone help the handicap to keep there health coverage

Sincerely,

Priscila Esparza

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95841

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is a soon to be disabled adult. In a handful of years he will be dependent on medicaid to help pay for all of his care. He is incontinent and has a feeding tube, so his care is not easy. He relies on the monthly delivery of his medical supplies. Medicaid also pays for his specialist visits.. he sees several specialty doctors that all form the team of care specialist. Whonwluod follow his treatment now since medicaid is the only insiramce he has. As an adult he will rely on having some sort of home caregiver to help maintain some of his independence. His durAble medical equipment is essensial to him. How wouod he shower without his bathchair, or get around the community without his chair. They are the people that need help, that need support. Please consider my son and those in same/similar situations as my son.

Sincerely,

Daisy Espinoza

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92604

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

3/16/17

I have Medical, it helps me by paying for my medication. If this is gone then I can't afford my medication. I will have stop my meds and I'll get sick and go back into the hospital. I don't want to go back into the hospital

Thank you,

Jaime Espinoza

Visalia, CA

Tulare County



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter who is now 30 years old eastbound have a brain tumor at 23 months the of age. The doctors did what they call is a resection of the brain to remove the tumor, however, her brain was the normal size for a 23 month old child, so they weren't able to get all of it because it was too close to the central part of the brain which could have killed her at the time. The doctors decided to do chemo therapy in hopes that it would stop growing. When that quit working we went to radiation therapy. She was in remission for 3 1/2 years at which time the tumor started to grow again. When had another resection of the brain as the doctors felt it was a lot safer to get all the tumor because her brain was bigger as well. Then she had chemotherapy again. Now in remission since 1997 she has a lot of after effects that many young cancer patients get when they become adults. When also has seizures from the tumor for the rest of her life and ally more problems as well. With out medicaid/medical she would not get the treatments and needs as well as her meds. I take care of her because there are a lot of things she can't do. The tumor also left her a partial paralysis of the left side so I help her bathe, but her food, cook, clean do laundry and many personal womenly things as well.

I hope and pray that this helps you understand the needs of many of us that have medical problems, who are disabled or senior citizens.

Sincerely,

Anita Falcone

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92868

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 8:53 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters to Me

Dear Congressional Representatives and Senators,

California, like all states, receives Medicaid funding to help pay for the cost of long-term supports that people with developmental disabilities receive. My name is Gilda Fallah, I am an IHSS provider to my son who has autism. He is 25 years old. I want to let you know the positive impact the Medicaid has on our lives. The IHSS is funded by the Medicaid and because of this I can focus on helping my son to live his full potential in the future. Also, the Regional Center services and community supports had a huge impact on my son to integrate him into the community, get around, to support him taking classes at the Community college or look for a job in his community. It is so crucial for our young adults with disabilities to continue getting these services.

Last week, Congress introduced a plan to change the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and Medicaid (known as Medi-Cal in California). According to the national Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, "The level of cuts over time would decimate the Medicaid program." Thousands of Californians with developmental disabilities depend on Medicaid. It is so crucial for our young adults with disabilities to continue getting the Medicaid services.

Thanks,

Gilda Fallah
[REDACTED]

Poway,
CA 92064

(858)748-4288



6/5/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Having cp since birth, I learned how to do many things. Now that my mobility is limited, I need to use a power chair to get around. Madical has helped me to have that chair maintained. I need I. H. S. S. to maintain my independence. Without it I would probably be in either a group home or a nursing facillily which for me would be worse then death. The regional center helped get adaptive equipment for my computer.

Sincerely,

Thomas Fambrot

Name

Pasadena, Los Angeles County

City or County

91101

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/18/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am 38 yrs old and I have intellectual disability. I am not able to read and write but I do use my special ed ipod with pictures and my parents understand me. I have different medical diagnosis and I have a few specialist that I see. My mom or someone will travel out of the area where I live to see my specialist. I can't drive. I need people to help me all the time. I like working in my community and I feel important and good about myself when I am told what a great job I am doing. See I need IHSS and my regional center case worker, also my job coach. I like living at home because my parents take good care of me and understand me. I have my space and love my house and neighbors. I feel safe when I have people around me to help me stay safe and healthy. I don't want to be by myself. there's a lot of bad people out there. I wear a whistle and I have a medical bracelet that I wear on me all the time. I don't have a thyroid any more and I need to take my thyroid pill to keep me alive. I can't swim and I also have stomach problems and have to be on a special diet. when I lived in San Jose there was a big earthquake and I just kept screaming and won't move. I was so scared and kept crying. my mom had to help me get out of my 2 story apartment. I need to feel safe. Please don't take my helpers and my family and home away from me. I love God. My mom is helping me get my feelings and thoughts out. thanks sarita fang

Sincerely,

Sarita Fang

Name

Redding, Shasta County

City or County

96003

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a 32 year old developmentally disabled adult. After living at home my entire life, I was able to move into an apartment two years ago. I receive Community Living Support Services (through Regional Center), In-Home Support Services and Medicaid. Without these important services, I would not be able to lead a productive and independent life in my community.

Sincerely,

Melissa Fell

Name

IRVINE, Orange County

City or County

92620

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

My name is Denise Laurichesse Ferguson, sister and conservator for John Laurichesse. I am **VERY CONCERNED** about the devastating result of Medicaid support being cut as President Trump looks to overturn Obamacare.

My brother, John Laurichesse, is a seventy-three year old man with moderate to severe cognitive developmental disabilities. Born at the height of WW II to our 18 year mother and soldier father serving overseas in the Army, John's cognitive and behavioral needs became quite apparent. Along with our grandparents, my mother tried for 5 years to care for John. After much guilt and both physical and mental abuse caused by an unsuspecting John, my mother made the difficult decision to place him in care of the state.

Now let's fast forward to 2017.

John currently lives in a group home (Rose Garden Manor III managed by Amy Soratorio) in Oxnard, California. He is very well cared for by highly trained personnel who, monitor his prescription medicine schedule, care for his hygiene needs, and keep his acting out behaviors under control. Beyond these skills, the personnel also provide nutritious meals, and engage John in daily activities.

Doctors come directly to Rose Garden Manor providing John and the other residents with consistent healthcare.

Monday through Friday, John attends Ocean View, an adult day program for adults with developmental disabilities. John is engaged in a variety of activities throughout the day befitting a "retired " man. All skilled staff work toward accomplishing John's annual goals. In addition John works with a behaviorist to continue working on his "acting out" behaviors. His nutrition needs along with his hygiene needs are well attended to at Ocean View.

John receives outstanding emotional and behavior support from his social worker (Dan Van Keuren) through Tri-Counties Regional Center.

John has been able to assimilate into the world through the joint dedication of his biological family, his Rose Garden family, the Ocean View family and his Tri-Counties family. Yes, when it comes to assisting persons with developmental disabilities, it does take a village.

John's funding for his services is provided through use of his Social Security money and Medicaid. The loss of Medicaid funding would throw the many developmentally disabled adults into a tail spin. Without funds for equipment to allow adults to compensate for their disability, without coordinated medical and behavioral support, I fear we will return to the sorrowful times in our country prior to special education law.

In closing, I remind everyone that it is Christ who said, "Whatsoever we do for the least of these, our brother, we do for Him."



5/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My students all have severe disabilities, some have severe Autism and are functionally impaired. Some of my students come from poor families. Medical and Medicaid are what keeps them healthy and able to function as best they can. We need to make sure that those who need it, get the care they need. My students get services at home, (ABA) that will help them to have a better life. They get immunizations, medical care, dental care and vision. Please don't take that away from them!

Sincerely,

Tammy Ferman

Name

Hayward, Alameda County

City or County

94544

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:40 AM
To: Giovati, Bob@SCDD
Subject: FW: Ian's story

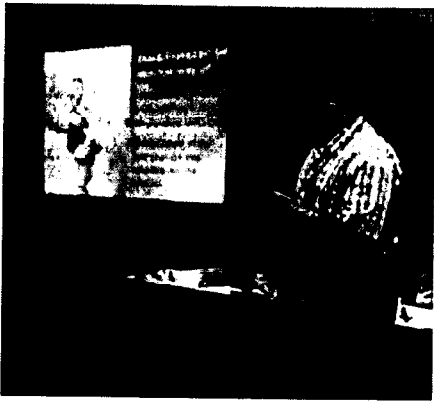
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Carruthers, Aaron@SCDD
Subject: Ian's story

Ian was 3 months old when he was diagnosed with panhypopituitarism, also known as septo-optic dysplasia (or DeMorsieur's Syndrome), a disorder found at a rate of 1 in 10,000 infants. Had he been born during the current administration, his prognosis and life expectancy (beyond the age of 6 months) would have been grim. Ian began receiving intensive early intervention services at the age of 4 months, at which point he also received a diagnosis of Pervasive Developmental Delay (PDD), a precursor to repetitive behaviors and sensory processing deficits that would evolve into a diagnosis of mild autism spectrum disorder. Because of his medical coverage, Ian benefited from the many invasive diagnostic tests that would make him eligible to receive special medications and hormone replacement therapies, all of which allowed him to live.

Ian received early intervention services until he was nearly 7 years old. Those services taught him to tolerate softer surfaces than wood, metal or hard rubbers, allowing him to withstand the touch of carpets, clothing, stuffed animals and other human beings. His medical coverage allowed a low-vision specialist to prescribe unique glasses that gave Ian the opportunity to see and interact with the world around him. Special education services gave Ian the ability to read and write, to socialize with his peers, and eventually to graduate from high school and take college classes.

Ian gives Ian uses public transportation because he is legally blind. Even though limited bus routes in his region are the beginning and the end of most of Ian's boundaries, he manages to give back in ways that benefit the same society that gave *him* a chance at life. He talks to kids in elementary, junior, and high schools about what it's like to have, grow up and live with a disability. He helps train law enforcement officers about people with disabilities and how to interact with those who are 'different,' allowing recruits and advanced officers the opportunity to 'practice' on a real, live person. Ian volunteers with a therapeutic equestrian program for children with severe to profound disabilities and with Young Life on campuses throughout the county in which he lives. He hangs out with the homeless population in his small town, offering them a sandwich and a word of encouragement about being 'outside the norm.'

Ian is a Medicaid recipient. He only uses those services and medications that are absolutely vital to his continued survival. There *is* no 17-20% cushion in the level of Ian's medical care or drug regimen. A reduction in the funding that provides transportation services may limit Ian's access to the world around him, but he would tell you that a reduction in Medicaid funding could kill not only *him*, but those children now being *born* with conditions that will leave them reliant on our country's entitlement system for their very survival.



Janet Fernandez, Senior Planning Analyst
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
[REDACTED]
Sacramento, CA 95811





6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Angelman Syndrome is a rare diagnosis that my daughter, Tasha (19yrs) has been diagnosed with at the age of 6 months. When we enter this world, we enter as equal souls, with every right to become the best we can, to progress and contribute to the society which my daughter has succeeded. She has changed me, her mother, her brother, father, grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends and whoever she comes in contact with without using words as she is non verbal and cognitively challenged. We all have become better human beings, non judgmental, tolerant, empathic, accepting and without a doubt more loving towards humanity. I encourage the government to see the individuals with special needs as extremely valuable and do its part in supporting and investing in their future because they are so WORTH IT! If we choose to devalue any fellow human, based on their disability, intelligence, cognitive abilities, socioeconomic status, we devalue part of ourselves.

Sincerely,

Mariora Filipovich

Name

Rancho Palos Verdes, Los Angeles

County

City or County

90275

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our mentally disabled, 49 yr. old son has dual diagnosis all his life. Any parent can attest to the physical, financial and emotional strain it takes on the family. We are so thankful for Regional Center - an organization to help them in basic living skills to help them make them live with dignity and giving them a source of joy with wonderful programs. It takes a village to help the disabled person. DISABLED ADULTS/CHILDREN NEED the BENEFITS AND SUPPORT --- IT IS their LIFE LINE. Otherwise there will be more homelessness. THANK YOU, Pam Fitch

Sincerely,

Pam Fitch

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92865

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter at 14 was in a auto accident - result Traumatic Brain Injury. She is only able to live in her own apt because of the help from Regional Center of OC due to the services they provide to people of all disabilities. Including ILS, IHSS, Job Training, classes to help them learn to cook, exercise, keep a clean home, pay bills, applicable dr apts etc. etc. They provide classes to help mainstream people with disabilities to enter into adult mainstream of society. ILS Helps her make dental, dr and specialist apts., take them to and from apts. including primary physican, specialists, dental, all that applies. IHSS provided by Medi-Cal helps with house cleaning, cooking and grocery shopping, physical limitations such as walking, bathing, incontinence, medications etc. Hud Housing helps due to low income. Most are on SSI or SSA so they are not homeless. HUD is needed because most disabled have low income and as their income increase so does the rent. All of these services help these individuals by protecting them from the streets and being victimized by others. My daughter was on SSI and now is collecting from my Social Security. How can our government, people we trust to protect us, want to take away from these people? They deserve our governments support. If our society takes away from them and allows a man to run this country that himself doesn't pay income taxes what direction is this country going? A billionaire doesn't want to pay taxes - yet people with income below 1,000 dollars a month has to give up their human rights because people in this country that support us say this is where we'll get the money from instead of asking the very wealthy to please help. Contribute something. If they do not want to pay taxes, ask them to visit these sites where people are helpless. Ask them to help them recover from accidents that cause life changes. Ask them to take them to dr apts or help them clean their housing or help them get dressed because they can't even brush their own teeth or bath themselves. Help the child that gets in an accident and with a brain injury can't do anything on their own. How does this individual work, how do they pay their own bills. If our government doesn't want to help them then

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



provide socialized medical help. No one wants that. I don't either, but that is better than no medical help for the needy. And trust me, any human being can become disabled with one car accident, or one fall or one incompetent president that doesn't understand human 'EMPATHY'. Please - do not take away the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid/Medi-Cal, IHSS, ILS, or monies from Regional Centers. Please help the helpless. Without these services many will die.

Sincerely,

Doreen Fitzpatrick

Name

La Habra, Orange County

City or County

90631

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/21/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Here is my Medicaid story.

My brother Mark Flanagan is a 46 year old man diagnosed with severe autism. He is a gentle soul who loves art, swimming, family, music and helping others. He currently lives in a residential home at Pacific Autism Center for Education (PACE) in Los Gatos, California.

Living at PACE and Medicaid allows him basic dignity of care and support to live independently and free to make their own decisions. Without Medicaid funding, Mark would go without basic necessities such as access to doctors, hospital visits, prescriptions medications and In-Home Support Services (IHSS). Medicaid is a cost effective solution and reduction in Medicaid funding would place my brother in emergency care units regularly at a higher cost to the healthcare system and is not an acceptable answer.

Please help individuals like my brother who can't speak up for themselves and fight for Medicaid funding.

Sincerely,

Sean Flanagan

Name

San Francisco, County of San Francisco

City or County

94110

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



JUNE 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

HERE IS MY MEDICAID STORY.

MY BROTHER MARK FLANAGAN IS A 46 YEAR OLD MAN DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM. HE CURRENTLY LIVES IN A RESIDENTIAL HOME AT PACIFIC AUTISM CENTER FOR EDUCATION (PACE) IN LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA.

LIVING AT PACE AND MEDICAID ALLOW HIM THE BASIC DIGNITY OF CARE, WITHOUT MEDICAID FUNDING, MARK WOULD GO WITHOUT NECESSITIES SUCH AS ACCESS TO DOCTORS, HOSPITAL VISITS, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND IN-HOME SUPPORT SERVICES (HSS). MEDICAID IS A COST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION AND REDUCTION OF HIS MEDICAID FUNDING WOULD PLACE MY BROTHER IN EMERGENCY CARE UNITS REGULARLY AT A HIGHER COST

Sincerely,

SEAN FLANAGAN

Name

SAN FRANCISCO

City or County

94110

Zip Code

PLEASE HELP INDIVIDUALS LIKE MY BROTHER WHO CAN'T SPEAK UP FOR THEMSELVES. FIGHT FOR MEDICAID FUNDING!

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/19/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Mark Flanagan, will be 47 this year. He is autistic with Tourette's Syndrome and cannot live independently; he lives in a fine residential program called Pacific Autism Center for Education in San Jose, CA. Throughout his life he has been dependent on Medicaid for his medical needs and to keep him healthy. He is prone to life-threatening status seizures and has had brain damage from them.

I ask you to keep Medicaid funding intact for him and others in the developmentally disabled community now and in the future. It is a good and essential service for this part of our population. What kind of society would we have without it? We cannot begin to even think of that. I beseech you for your support for my son Mark. I thank you for any and all efforts that you can expend in saving the Medicaid funding.

Sincerely,

Mary Flanagan-Hanson

Name

Sunnyvale, Santa Clara County

City or County

94087

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6-23-17

Date

To whom it may concern,

Please stop taking away Medicaid it's hurting all of us.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Florez

Name

Willits, CA

City or County

95490

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is 29 years old living with autism. He engages in self-injurious behavior everyday. Most requires over the counter care, however several times a year he requires professional, medical intervention. He also has had so many bouts of MRSA that any injury could create a flare up. The only treatment is heavy rounds of antibiotics. If left untreated, it could be deadly. He is also heavily medicated and medications are expensive. One medication, and the one that helps the most, isn't even covered and costs \$360 a month, out of pocket. If medications are not covered, he cannot afford them on his own due to his only income is SSI, less than \$900 a month. No one, NO ONE, can live off of \$900 a month. You can't even find a place to live. His impact from autism is severe, he cannot work, is non-verbal (non-communicative) and requires 3 to 1 staffing around the clock to care for him. He will be lost forever without Medicaid, insurance and more. Please do not lose sight of the vulnerable. The vulnerable need everyone to see to their care. This is not a life that was wanted, it is the life that was given. My son counts!

Sincerely,

Penelope Fode

Name

Claremont, Los Angeles County

City or County

91711

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7.22.17

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Patrick, has Down Syndrome. He is 18 years old, fully included in his high school & set to graduate with a California high school diploma in 2018. Patrick was born with the AV Canal Heart Defect which required open heart surgery at nine weeks old. He developed leukemia just before he turned 3 years old. He had three plus years of treatment for leukemia & entered kindergarten just a few weeks after he completed all treatment. Today, Patrick has plans to attend an inclusive post secondary program for people with intellectual disabilities. He plans to live on his own, find someone to love and find work that is able to support himself. In other words he has plans for a regular life... an extraordinary accomplishment.

Sincerely,

Beth Firaker

Name

Davis - Yolo County

City or County

95616

Zip Code

It is thanks to the supports provided by Medicaid & the visionaries who came before us who worked for the dignity & equity of people with disabilities. Please stand with us.

Thank you!
♡

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/30/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I depend on full time care due to my many disabilities. I depend on my staff to bathe, feed, clothe and get me in and out of my wheelchair and bed. Without medicaid I would be in a serious place not being able to afford to pay for my care. As it is, most of my caretakers are underpaid for the work they do. Most of them have to have a second job to be able to afford living in the bay area of California. I plead with ALL the lawmakers to think about those individuals like myself when making any decisions about healthcare or the national budget

Sincerely,

David Forderer

Name

San Jose, Santa Clara County

City or County

95112

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



Date 6/8/17

To whom it may concern,

My name is Thomas David Forderer. I have a disability called cerebral palsy.

Medical / Medicaid health coverage are important to me because they allow me to live and work in the community.

The coverage allows me to buy medical equipment such as my bed and wheelchair. The wheelchair ~~allows me~~ affords me the opportunity to be involved in politics and advocate for other disabled individuals. By working with State Council on Developmental Disabilities, I

The Aid also allows me to pay for ^{my} medical personal care attendants who help me shower, dress and eat my meals.

Sincerely, Without medical/Medicaid coverage I would not be able to be the advocate I am.

Thomas David Forderer

Name

San Jose

City or County

95112

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



JUNE 20, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DO NOT CUT ARE PROGRAMS,
AND OUR HEALTH CARE BECAUSE WE NEED IT

Sincerely,

ANA FLORES

Name

TRACY CA - SAN JUANICO

City or County

95330

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is adopted. After 5 years of misdiagnosis, I was told he was Autistic. Higher functioning, but nonetheless, Autistic. This placed an extreme burden on our family financially, mentally and emotionally. He also had a growth hormone deficit and would be put on growth hormone. Again, another extreme blow to our family. Through MediCal along with my work insurance at the time we were able to fund the much needed supports and medicines he needed to thrive. Now as young adult he is living in a supported living home. He has 24 hour care to help him dress, eat and get to a day school. He takes several medications to keep his aggression under control. He had to be put in this living situation when I could no longer handle him when he was aggressive. I was then, and still am certain that someone could get extremely hurt or worse. without the help of mediCal he would not be supported in his medications and I am unable to fund for them. I don't have the bankroll. We do not have outside family. It is myself and him. This current health insurance fight is ridiculous. While those that serve their communities and this country via government positions have health care for themselves and their families even after leaving office, it's beyond me why they are so hardpressed to extend these benefits to those truly in need. My son will never work and earn his own insurance. He won't drive a car, get married, travel to see the world, read a book, make a friend. To take away his ability to have the medications he needs he will be given a life sentence on the street. I am 62 years old. I am unable to help him. If you're reading this and you have the ability to vote against taking away the insurance from the disabled, challenged and elderly, then you have to obligation to stand up for the people that put you in office. There is no other choice.

Sincerely,

September Forsyth

Name

Van Nuys, Los Angeles County

City or County

91401

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/29/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 14 year old daughter was born with a chromosome disorder, cerebral palsy and autism. She cannot talk and for the longest time could only express herself with gestures. When she was 8, Medicaid helped us purchase a communication device for her, and it opened up a new world for her. She loved talking with her device and telling us what she wants and what she sees! We appreciate the help as the device and accessories cost more than \$8000.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster

Name

Belmont, San Mateo County

City or County

94002

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



June 8, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I know what I have to say doesn't really involve me, even though I have IEHP, but it doesn't matter because I have a mother who has been suffering from various problems for so many years and she signed up for Obamacare to get better access to her medicine, which has turned out very well for her. So if you people who blindly follow our misguided leader's plan to eradicate the ACA still want to make that happen, just think of the people like my mom and try to see her side. Good day.

Sincerely,

Daniel Fouste

Name

San Bernardino County

City or County

91701

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/22/2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

DEAR Policy maker,
THE LIVES AND PERSONAL OUTCOMES OF many young adults with disabilities are impacted by Medicaid. As a professional in higher education, I have personally witnessed how individuals with disabilities (including individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism) benefit from Medicaid and go on to attend college and eventually work. If Medicaid is reduced or removed from these individuals, they would not be able to obtain the supports they need for a quality life in the community. Medicaid keeps our citizens with disabilities out of institutions and allows them to live a productive life. PLEASE continue Medicaid Sincerely, funding. Thank you!

Witbert Francis

Name
Alhambra, California
City or County

91801
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a social worker for kids with special needs. 90% of them depend on Medi-Cal/Medicaid. Medi-Cal is their only medical insurance. When the president and his people decide to partially cut this program, they literally cut help to the most disadvantage population: the special needs people. Why don't you cut on Defense and start pumping money into these programs and education in general?

Sincerely,

Jesus Franco

Name

Culver City, Los Angeles County

City or County

90230

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

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6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Speaking on behalf of my adult son, Daniel, the services provided him are essential to keeping him happy, healthy and gainfully employed. He lives at home with me and since his father passed away suddenly eight yrs ago, it's been an absolute godsend to have this support. I work full time but my income isn't sufficient to support both of us. Thankfully, Medicaid has been a lifeline for us.

Sincerely,

Nancy Freeman

Name

Fullerton, Orange County

City or County

90621

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I work with individuals with developmental/physical disabilities and they use Medicaid to assist them with physician, specialists and hospital visits. Their Medicaid helps pay for these appointments and regularly maintains their health. Imagine if there was no Medicaid for these individuals and how they wouldn't be provided with any health care services? They would suffer immensely and the foundation of our government is based off of all men/women are created equal. These individuals require medical services to assist them regularly. I wouldn't want anyone to be without affordable healthcare. These individuals will be affected if the ACA is repealed. How will the individuals afford healthcare if many of their procedures cost more than their care providers annual gross income. In the US, we need to make sure everyone can afford healthcare and individuals who need it don't have to be afraid of not being able to afford a medical procedure/check up. Medicaid is a vital factor in the lives of individuals with developmental/physical disabilities. We must keep healthcare accessible for these individuals.

Sincerely,

Edward Frutis

Name

El Monte, Los Angeles County

City or County

91733

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



JUNE 20, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DO NOT CUT OUR
PROGRAMS AND OUR
HEALTH CARE, OUR FREEDOMS
AND SURVIVAL DEPEND ON
IT.

Sincerely,

Name DAVID G

City or County MANHE C.A., CA

Zip Code 95336

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6-21-2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

These benefits are important
to me. I go to the doctors
regularly and without my
benefits I would not be able
to afford it on my own

Sincerely,

R P B E C C D G

Name

MANTECA - CA

City or County

95334

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



4/29/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is important to us because we have been without it. Without it needs increase and things get worse.

Our son had an early autism diagnosis of autism but was dismissed from services after early intervention with an assessment that did not include the standard testing procedures for autism.

And things got worse.

He still could not successful leave the house and participate in any social activities in his community. He was not getting services, I was unable to work and we went into debt trying to find the answers .

Without the proper diagnosis, treatment and supports, the school placed him in a behavioral program that primarily served students with emotional disturbance. He was restrained numerous times without the appropriate preventative measures put in place.

And things got worse.

He was not safe at school so I was left to home school him. He started to get consistently aggressive at home, he would not leave the house for even previously preferred activities, build mazes of barriers in his room and while previously behavioral techniques like a warning system had been successful I could no longer give him any direction without communicating with a stuffed animal.

And financially things got worse. For us, we had given up more than half our income because I could no longer work. For the government, once he was again

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



diagnosed with ASD by a number of professionals for the next five years he required a high level of services.

Finally, after years of services he should have had before acquiring PTSD we obtained the services Medicaid provides and there was actual hope. Once readmitted to the regional center they saw his significant needs, we were able to decrease our increasing debt by obtaining secondary medical coverage for him. He received in-home behavioral services that after 4 years positioned him to return to school. We got financial support due to his need for constant supervision. To this day his therapy continues. We are hopeful someday he may have an income and be independent with supports.

We will never know how independent he would now be if he had been properly diagnosed and had services during those early years. We can say with a great deal of confidence he would have been able to leave the home earlier, join his community earlier and would have cost the government significantly less.

Please work hard to protect Medicare that serves so many like our son. These needs do not go away, they only increase when not served.

Sincerely,

Sandra Gagain

Name

Roseville, Placer County

City or County

95661

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Ereida Galda [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 1:58 PM
To: 'council@scdd.ca.gov'
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Why Medicaid matters to me and my family but especially Johnny

Hello,

I am writing with the intent to let you know why Medicaid is so important to my son Johnny, who is 23. Our son Johnny is diagnosed with very involved quadriplegia cerebral palsy, he is nonverbal and has digestive issues, including gastroparesis and short small bowel syndrome. Both my husband and I work to help supplement what is not covered through his private and Medicaid programs. Words cannot express the extent of care our son requires around the clock. He was supposed to Die in March of last year when he lost 80 percent of his bowels, but our prayers were heard and he survived. The doctors still can't explain how Johnny is doing so well emotionally even with all that has happened to him and all of his challenges now. We take one day at a time because now John is on Total parenteral nutrition (which means the main source of nutrition is through a pick line, he is fed intravenously) which requires even more sterile care and lots of support. Taking care of John is lots of emotional and physical work, we would never be able to give him the quality of care and support at home if it wasn't for all the resources and supports that play a crucial part of Johns team. A lot of them rely on Medicaid to fund for the services my son requires like Regional Centers, IHSS, Home care nursing, etc..) Johnny has never had any choices in the things that have happened to him medically. Our job in this lifetime as his parents is to dedicate ourselves to make sure that we can make him the most comfortable and happiest he can be and that is our reward after every tiring day. This is a life we would never have chosen for our kid but for some reason was given to us. We pray and beg that the choices that are made when changes are made to these programs is that, our less fortunate, our most vulnerable don't have to suffer even more. The reason we have been able to continue to care for our child is because of these wonderful resources, please don't cut or change them. Think of our family and the impact it would have on us and John, we already live day by day with so much stress and so much more work than a typical family(we are running on empty). When we feel like we can't do it anymore, all it takes is his smile, it makes us reflect on how hard he works to stay alive and be happy.

Sincerely,

Ereida Galda
[REDACTED]

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5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Please do not cut out Medicaid services. My severely disabled son depends on this funding to get his diapers, because they are not covered through his primary health plan. Before he had this coverage through Medi-Cal, we had to go to the outlet stores to purchase them, if they had his size, because they are so expensive in the regular stores. Also, without this funding for IHSS, it will be extremely difficult financially, since I had to get an early retirement from work, and my pension is much lower than what my salary used to be.

Sincerely,

John Gallegos

Name

South Gate, Los Angeles County

City or County

90280

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Julie Gaona I'm a quadriplegic, born with cerebral palsy. I rely on my Medi-Cal and Social Security (SSI) to survive on a daily basis. I need my Medi-Cal not only for my health insurance but I need it for equipment, In-home-supportive-services and Lanterman Regional Center services. I'll be lucky if I end up in a nursing home, like millions of others. Only so I don't go homeless. Other than that I will not have any quality of life. I will not be able to work, continue to be to married, etc. ; sad part is there are billions of people like me. Other cuts can be made such as prisons, corporations that are already worth billions.

Projects that are being made to better our community such as businesses that are never fully developed after built. Also, projects that are created to check out the moon etc. What is the point in that, the moon will always be here. It's the people on the planet that matter. My husband is also disabled with Cerebral palsy as well and relays on some of the same kind of services, he will also suffer. Jobs will be lost and more persons will have more hardships. Will this really be saving the budget? Please ask yourself, would you want to be ripped from your family and your dignity?

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

Julie Gaona

Name

Glendale, Los Angeles County

City or County

91201

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I get you get several letters everyday from billions of people regarding the budget. Please take the time in your day to read what I am about to say;

My name Julie Gaona, I live in Glendale California. I was born with cerebral palsy. I independently live on my own, I require 24-hour care. I am a quadriplegic. I receive services from Lanterman Regional Center and In-home-supportive service. Lanterman Regional Center gives supported living agency's that is vendor to provide supportive living services for me everyday.

This agency is called United Cerebral Palsy. I live in one of their affordable apartments. I've been reading on the internet that there are going to be cuts to some of the Regional Center services as well as In-home-support-services. These cuts will effect my life, my husbands life, my workers life etc. If these cuts take place, my main question is, where are people going to be placed to live and receive services who are like me or other disabled people who need different services to survive everyday.

My parents are too old to take care of me. My family has to work long hours to survive. The hospitals and nursing homes are over crowded and i\'s going to get worse. So there is not going to be enough room to house anybody. So are billions of people going to die??

I know there can be other cuts that could be made such as extra money going to services to tanning salons, golf clubs, sports events, high businesses and so on. Remember people vote you into office. Do you really want people against you or for you? We do not have the power to make these decisions to STOP these cuts. But you do. Please advocate for us because we depend on you. Before I end this letter we all get old, get into accidents, have mishaps etc. everyday. Could it be

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



you?

Sincerely,

Julie Gaona

Name

Glendale, Los Angeles County

City or County

91201

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Rigoberto Gaona, and I am writing to you to express my concern over the American Health Care Act. I would like to ask you to take in consideration when voting for this act the needs of people with developmental disabilities. I am concern over the potential cuts to the services offered to people with disabilities such as; medical, the Regional Centers, Medicare, and In Home Spport Services. I am a client of these services, and I highly benefit from receiving them. Therefore I would like to continue to receive them. As our California representative I would you to do you're best to take care our needs, to the best of your abilities. We highly benefited from Obamacare, so we would like for it to continue. Through Obamacare I have been able to go to the doctor which I had never been able to do before. I am married, my wife Julie Gaona also needs these benefits to live independently. Lanterman Regional Center pays an agency called United Cerebral Palsy. They provide services as well. This agency depends on the founding from the Regional center. United Cerbral Palsy is world wide agency there would a lot of people unemployed, which would cause more deficits to our budget. The same thing goes for IHSS, medical, and Regional center workers. There are not enough nursing homes for us to go to, so we would end up in emergency rooms that would cost billions of dollars. There are other cuts that can be made to our budget such as; all the experimenting our planet. There are some corporations making billions of dollars every year, month, and day. Please take that in consideration. I am depending on you and others ton advocate for me and billions of others.

Sincerely,

Rigoberto Gaona

Name

Glendale, Los Angeles County

City or County

91201

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/12/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a single mom of a 13 year old son with nonverbal autism and uncontrolled seizures. Whenever my son gets a virus, his seizures increase in frequency and duration. He has been hospitalized multiple times in the last few months. He has had many ambulance rides to ERs and hospitals. He has tried over 8 medications with no long term success. My son also has severe urination retention and severe constipation which require even more ER and doctor visits. I am hoping things will get better for my son but as of now, he has a doctor appointment every other few weeks. All his medical bills are paid for by the Medicaid program and I thank god for this program every day because without it, I'd be in massive debt. The Medicaid program has made it possible for my son to see many different specialists and receive treatment. I am also my son's IHSS provider as he needs constant care and has low functioning autism. Thanks to IHSS, I can stay home to care for him. Please do not cut funding for the Medicaid program. It is incredibly important to so many people.

Sincerely,

Christina Garcia

Name

Corona, Riverside County

City or County

92882

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 6, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our son has been diagnosed with multiple delays/disabilities and we have fought long and hard to get the necessary therapies to help with his delays. We are about to finally receive services (it has taken over 2 years) and we may be about to lose the services that we haven't yet received. For the well-being of so many individuals who need this support from Medicaid, please don't take it away!!!

Thank you in advance for taking the time to listen and read these testimonials!

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Bridak

Name

Anaheim, Orange County

City or County

92801

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am 27, with a rare genetic disorder. It is Mucopolysaccharidosis IV. I am now blind, and need total care, from feeding clothing, bathing, etc. I have had in home support services, and this has improved my quality of life. My aide has helped me function as close to normal as possible. Medicaid has helped with my medical apps, drugs, supplies. I don't know how I could survive without the aid I have received.

Sincerely,

Sara Getchell

Name

Yorba linda, Orange County

City or County

92886

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have autism. I am receiving medical, IHSS, and plenty of support and help from RCOC that I am very grateful. I will be homeless and very sick with out these support. People who are planning to change the Medicaid perhaps they have no disability to understand how it is to live with a condition that no one can remove, it is heartless to bother people in need of government support, help, and supervision. Please do not take my freedom from me by changing my support system. I would appreciate your understanding. Regional Center of Orange County matters, thank you.

Sincerely,

Adam Ghafoori

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92614

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/17/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son had Epilepsy, then they found a brain disease necessitating removal of 1/2 his brain. California Children Services and Medi Cal paid for surgery, therapies, DME's.

Without these services, he would be declining in health, and eventually paralyzed. Also, my husband lost his job, and medical coverage. He and I went on Medi Cal. Very glad, helped to have doctor and medicine.

Sincerely,

Helene Giese

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95842

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Please don't cut back on Medicaid. My son Johnny is a 23 year old young man with Cerebral Palsy quadriplegic, developmentally delayed, gastroparesis, and small bowel syndrome among many other things. He is TPN dependent which means he is fed via a pic line that goes to a vein in his heart. Johnny requires a around the clock care to remain safely at home. They have actually recommended we place him in a medical/nursing home but we have refused because we want Johnny to be around his loved ones. We have made many sacrifices to do this. This has also been very cost efficient to the state but with that said we would not be able to care for him at our home if it wasn't for all the support we get from IHSS, Medical, Medicaid other medical waivers and Regional Center and SSI. All these support systems allow Johnny to have a better quality of life along his loved ones. If you read Johns chart you'd be impressed once you saw him because he actually looks way better than he is and the doctors only explanation is called love. John should not be with us but he is and as long as he keeps fighting to stay alive and be positive and happy we have to do the same for him. We cant give up on our son. There are many families like ours that do not choose this life and we need the support to be able to deal with it. Please don't give up on us, don't give up on our most vulnerable community members. Our life is about fighting to live don't make us fight for the stuff that gives us life. Please put yourself in our shoes.

When I feel like I can no longer do this I make a list of all the positive things in my life and the first one is always that I get to live in a country where my son is valued and cared for.

Sincerely,

Ereida Galda

Name

Gardena, Los Angeles County

City or County

90249

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter Kate (18) was diagnosed with Autism and Bipolar disorder. From age 14-16 Kate was hospitalized in the psychiatric ward 10 times. We were very fortunate to have the help of Regional Center and Medical to pick up the outrageous costs of her daily needs and visits to the Psych. ward. In 2015 we were given a gift a chance to prepare Kate for stability and a future out of being institutionalized or in jail. We had her placed in a group home and for the past 3 years have watched her grow into a calmer

Sincerely,

Katherine Glassman

Name

Ventura, Yuba County

City or County

93003

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our Robbie has trisomy 8q. It was a random diagnosis and not one we had expected. The doctors didn't know anything about it either and he wasn't expected to walk or talk. Robbie is 17 years old now and will be 18 in September. He is a light in the world. He is developmentally disabled and the happiest person you will meet. He was able to receive speech, physical and occupational therapy since he was months old and now walks and talks and plays and gives lots of hugs and love! Without Medicaid and funding for therapies through the Golden Gate Regional Center Robbie would not be able to participate in our community so successfully as he is now. And as we look towards his future including housing and some independence it scares us to death that his health care could be under covered or not covered at all! Our country is better with Robbie and friends like him. We need to continue supporting one of our most vulnerable populations. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Goddard

Name

Redwood City, San Mateo County

City or County

94062

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

The president and the Congress you really need to think about us mothers of kids with disabilities that would destroy us they need medical attention constantly medication that would just be unvarying for us and others specially the elderly I'm a single mom with a disabled son and this would just absolutely tear lot of us apart because where we would get the funding for their medication the respite care all these other stuff that we look for because we can't go out there and work a job 40 hours a week who's going to take care of our children please please do something have empathy because this will destroy not only the disabled just people in general thank you sincerely candy Gomez a blessed mother with a son is 23 years old and disabled with multiple disabilities please help us

Sincerely,

Candi Gomez

Name

Anaheim, Orange County

City or County

92801

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 43 year old daughter was born with Cerebral Palsy and approximately 20 years ago, she was also diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder. We, her parents have worked all our lives but unfortunately could not afford the expensive durable medical equipment such as wheel chair, braces, hydraulic lift among others. She has had surgeries for her back (scoliosis), her feet, and placement of a bag for urine. Medicaid, known in California as Medi-Cal, has funded all of these surgeries, equipment, medications, and as a regional center client on the Medicaid Program, support services have also been provided for her. Today, she resides in her own apartment with supported living services funded by the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center and In-Home-Support Services. Approximately six years ago, when I retired, she became eligible for Medicare, which was a big relief to us, her parents, as we thought that her medical expenses were going to be better covered. Little did we know that now both of these programs are in danger of being cut and I wonder what is going to happen to my daughter. Both my husband and I are retired with a fixed income and will not be able to help her. She is now in need of a wheel chair but her present one needs to not work at all before she is given a new one. She is not the only one, I am attaching a picture showing some of her friends who are in the same situation. To take this support from people with disabilities is the most evil and heartless decision anyone can make.

Sincerely,

Lydia Gonzalez

Name

Montebello, Los Angeles County

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



City or County

90640

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

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6/19/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi, my name is Melaya Gonzalez, and I am a constituent who cares deeply about policies that impact individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. I am calling to urge you to oppose the American Health Care Act, which would institute per capita caps for Medicaid. I represent Valley Caps and we provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities that are dependent on federal financial participation through a Medicaid waiver. Per capita caps will severely limit the amount of funding for these services that are critical to providing much costlier institutional placements, and that facilitate choices and opportunities that enhance the quality of their lives.

Sincerely,

Melaya Gonzalez

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95351

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Mark Gordon. I have a unique experience and perspective about all of the supports that I receive on a daily basis from the Regional Center and Medi-Cal. I am a 56 year old man with severe Cerebral Palsy and require assistance with all of my activities of daily living from care staff. However, in spite of my challenges, I am able to lead a very fulfilling and productive life. I am the CEO of Here's The Deal, a non-profit corporation that supports individuals with developmental disabilities in Butte, Glenn, Shasta and Tehama counties. Here's The Deal has 76 employees that I manage to support our clientele. I have earned a good reputation from the agencies and individuals that we work with and none of this would have been possible without the combination of supports i.e. the Regional Center, IHSS and Medi-Cal. I am grateful each day that I can get up and contribute to my community because it is these supports that have allowed me to remain independent and productive! I would be honored to share more if it is helpful.

Respectfully,

Mark Gordon, CEO
Here's The Deal

Chico, Butte County
City or County

95928
Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a widowed mom of my son Bart Gorman he is autistic and has epilepsy he has a day program and care giver he loves I use the time Bart's gone to go to work to earn a living also on sun I have respite services so we would miss all of this it's the only help I have with Bart I'm alone they a a wonderful help they depend on the funding to help this great program please my son and I would be lost without it
Thanks Mary Gorman

Sincerely,

Mary Gorman

Name

Tustin, Orange County

City or County

92782

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

We have two adult sons with autism. We are deeply grateful for the long term supports that Medicaid provides for our boys. The community based services, such as job coaching, and community integration supports, enables them to work, live in their own homes, and be a part of their communities. Without these supports, our boys would not be safe, and included in society. I don't know what we would do without these supports. As we age, these supports give us comfort that our boys will be okay. It is so frightening to think about these supports being taken away. We've come so far in our lifetime to be inclusive and accepting. Our boys touch the lives of all those around them - they make the world better. Please think of us.

Sincerely,

Cathy Gott

Name

Marina del Rey, Los Angeles County

City or County

90292

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My entire family has been declined for health care in the past for pre-existing conditions. Currently and thanks to legislation passed in the last few years, my son has Medicaid (MediCal), which covers for his needs about Autism. A condition he was born with.

All legislators -and all politicians for that matter- should understand that a country that excludes an individual from health care because he or she has a condition (especially one they were born with) and leaves them to die as soon as they go through an expensive medical event which cannot cover, has no right to call itself "The greatest country in the world".

Please help in making legislators understand it is lives they are playing with. No parties, no figures, its lives.

Sincerely,

Victor Granados

Name

Thousand Oaks, Ventura County

City or County

91360

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is diagnosed with Autism. CVRC has been an active partner in supporting my son and my family during the different stages of his growth. He is now 17 years and was able to live life to the fullest.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Grande

Name

Lemoore, Kings County

City or County

93245

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

When my oldest sister Penny was born in 1947, my mother was told to institutionalize her because her disabilities were so very severe due to a very botched delivery by the doctor. Mom took her home and she has lived a wonderful life. She will be 70 years old this September and lives independently in her own place. She loves her independence.

This could only happen with the continued support of the Orange County Regional Center and Medicaid funding. Instead of spending many, many thousand of dollars to keep Penny in an institution, the government is spending MUCH LESS assisting her through weekly visits, etc. PLEASE do not cut the funding! This is so very important! Our 94 year old mother passed in December and my other sister has a terminal disease. Cutting Penny's funding would create an unsustainable situation since I live 1500 miles away from Penny and already care for a disabled son in my home.

Sincerely,

Judith Gray

Name

Seattle, Orange County

City or County

98116

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

This medicaid story is about my daughter Grace, she was born with downs syndrome, she has the body of a woman but the mind of a five year old, she has been with the Regional Center since birth, their help and guidance has been very important in our lives, she attends a day program for adults, she is now 32 years old. without this program I don't know what my wife and I would do, she is overweight, has heart problems, vision problems, flat feet and back problems, the day program that she attends is primarily a weight control and diet program, where the staff helps them exercise and learn eating habits, I am very grateful and thankful for the ability for my daughter to attend this and other programs as the need arises, please keep medicaid funded for the needs of so many disabled and in need.

Sincerely,

Grace Marie Gutierrez

Name

West Covina, Los Angeles County

City or County

91791

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I use a walker every day to get around. I use it so much that my wheels are starting to get bare. I rely on my benefits to get me the assistance that I need to make sure my needs are being met. I also go to the doctors regularly for check ups. It is a necessity for me to have access to that.

Sincerely,

John Gutierrez

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95350

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



Date July 22, 2017

To whom it may concern,

Because of Medicaid supports, my daughter is able to work in the community, have transportation via Uber back and forth and next month take driver's education. Without these supports none of this would be possible.

Sincerely,

Martine ~~Barney~~ Holzer

Name

Sacramento, CA

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Carol Haitin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:57 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: RE: Why Medicaid Matters to Our Family

We live in San Diego and my daughter who has Cerebral Palsy receives services from the Regional Center. Without these services, she would not be able to live in her community and most importantly be a part of her community. She does volunteer work; is a member of the YMCA; is learning how to prepare meals for herself; receives medical care; and I, her full time care provider, receive much needed respite services.

All of this would not be possible if these services (Medi-Cal) were taken away or reduced.

These community supports through Medi-Cal have allowed my daughter to be a thriving, healthy member of her community and have allowed our family to remain in our home here in San Diego.

I implore you not to allow these services to be reduced or taken away.

Carol Haitin
San Diego County



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a single grandmother/great-grand mother caring for my 3 intellectual disable kids age ranging from 9 month and twins age 12 please dont take our medical from us we need help

Sincerely,

Brenda Hall

Name

Santa Ana, Orange County

City or County

92703

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid helps me with my doctors appointments, medication, and to live life to the fullest.

Sincerely,

Robert Hamilton

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95350

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Kyle, has autism. Medicaid helps to pay for his expensive medications, dental care, hospitalization, and medical/psychiatric appointments. It also provides for Independent Living Services and will assure that he has the supports he needs when I die. Kyle is 22. We adopted him when I was 50. Medicaid made that possible since we could not afford to care for him otherwise.

Sincerely,

Michael Hanson

Name

Redding, Shasta County

City or County

96001

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Without Medicaid I will not be able to live with my family and in a positive environment. I suffer from multiple disabilities and depression - this would only create more sadness and loss for me and my family. please do not cut program

Sincerely,

Devin Hatfield

Name

Foothill Ranch, Orange County

City or County

92610

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Both of my sons were born with an undiagnosed neuromuscular disease resulting in severe developmental disabilities. They have relied upon Medicaid for numerous lengthy hospitalizations in ICU, as well as for consults with specialists, such as neurologists, gastroenterologists, pulmonologists, and urologists. Medicaid paid for their wheelchairs, oxygen, and countless medical supplies to meet their various medical needs. G-Tube feeding supplies and formula, suctioning equipment, wound care, home health nursing, physical therapy, seizure medications, antibiotics, wound care treatments ~ the list is endless.

In 1986, my sons became IHSS beneficiaries, which allowed them to remain in our home, while I am paid to provide their 24 hour care. My income as their IHSS care provider has enabled me to keep our home and pay for expenses, which Medicaid will not cover, such as alternating pressure mattresses and hospital beds. Because I am their mother, IHSS did not allow me to pay into Social Security or Medicare for the past 31 years. But I've been able to keep my sons at home, so that they have a safe, loving environment and quality of life with our family and friends.

Regional Center has also supported our family in many ways, including paying for a wheelchair lift and tie downs for our 1998 Dodge van.

My youngest son died at the age of 32, after 22 years of intractable seizures. His brother, my oldest son, is 47 and continues to live at home with me and my husband, as we provide 24 hour care. He has a trache, a G Tube, a colostomy, and an indwelling catheter. His diagnoses include epilepsy, osteoporosis, hypothyroidism, lymphedema, enlarged prostate, and poor motility.

Without Medicaid, we will have to assume all of the expenses involved in providing our son with care. We are not independently wealthy, and we are not millionaires or billionaires, like the elected officials, who are responsible for

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



creating laws to serve all Americans, and who want to take away my son's care to feed their already overstuffed wallets. If our son loses IHSS, we will be unemployed and financially devastated.

Cuts to the Medicaid program will have wide-reaching adverse effects on those, who serve Medicaid recipients, from hospitals, physicians, home health, ambulances, to medical equipment suppliers, pharmacies, and even Big Pharma. If there are no funds to pay for services and supplies, they will not be purchased.

Millions of Americans, like my son, will be punished with dire, inhumane consequences without Medicaid funding. And when they are dragged out of their wheelchairs on the ground, while peacefully protesting and fighting for their rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the message sent is that the government views them as criminals and sub-human.

Both President Obama and President Trump referred to the proposed health care bill as 'mean'. A more accurate word is cruel. If resources are unavailable to meet the needs of our most vulnerable citizens, many of them will become ill, institutionalized, and die. There is no higher form of discrimination and violation of civil rights than this.

For the lives of my son, his peers, and their families, please stop this bill.

Sincerely,

Rose Hawkins

Name

Fullerton, Orange County

City or County

92833

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the mother of 24-year-old triplets who has each been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and who are clients of Westside Regional Center. Each of them is on medication - for anxiety, rigidity of thought, and/or severe clinical depression. Those medications help keep their lives somewhat in check, and we could never afford the drugs without Medicaid (MediCal). Never. We could not afford for them to see a psychiatrist for medication monitoring. They will not be able to live on their own someday without regional center-funded supported living services. At some point my husband and I will die; every single day we worry about what will happen to our three kids when we're gone. Neither of us make enough money to leave an inheritance. We don't own property. Without Westside Regional Center and continued Medicaid funding for Westside Regional Center

Sincerely,

Candace Hein

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90045

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

MEDICAID IS A NECESSARY SOURCE OF FUNDING THAT CONTINUES TO IMPROVE & SUSTAIN THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF INDIVIDUALS THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA. AS A SERVICE PROVIDER I WITNESS ~~THE~~ THE IMPACT THIS FUNDING HAS ON FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITIES. THERE IS NEVER ENOUGH FUNDING IN OUR DDS SYSTEM, SO AT THE VERY LEAST WE MUST STRIVE TO KEEP OUR FUNDING STABLE.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH HERNANDEZ
Name

SACRAMENTO
City or County

95811
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hello my name is Lorena Hernandez I have 4 children three of them are typical, one has autism he is 18 years old now. Let me start by saying that being a low income family is overwhelming enough. I don't want to think how it would be with out medicare. Mark is my 18 year old son he has been in special ed since he was 6 since then it has been a battle to get the proper services. He has been seen a therapist since he was very young he suffers from scoliosis and from what he calls bad thoughts twice, now it has been intensive, once two years 6 months ago and he currently is going threw the same thing but now that he is a teen it has been worst what he calls bad thoughts in reality are suicidal thoughts I don't want to think what I would do with out his health care I can't work a full 40 hours per week. I have to be there for him he can't cook or take care of his needs. I wouldn't be able to afford any type of care, all of the changes they want to do are not fair what would I and so many people with typical children will do now imagine if you have a child with any sort of special needs. I can't even think about that because there is no alternative I am not rich not even close to anything like that but I believe my children deserve to see a doctor if they are sick or not feeling well. I don't want to think what I would do if my kids were sick and me not being able to afford health care my son would be tormenting him self with this thoughts. Please keep in mind I am his voice, I am his mother if he is not feeling well I'm not feeling well , if he doesn't sleep I don't sleep, by the way we haven't slept for two and a half weeks now imagine that.

Sincerely,

Lorena Hernandez

Name

Oxnard, Ventura County

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



City or County

93036

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am Mark Gonzalez mom first and foremost, I am his voice. Mark suffers from autism and scoliosis Medicaid helps me afford his medication. I really don't know what I would do I am limited in how many hours I can work, because somebody has to be there when Mark comes home from school. Lately he had suicide thoughts for the second time. I don't even want to think about what I would do if I didn't have access to therapist or his medications. Please as a mother as only one of the many mothers think when your alone when you are kissing your own children. What would you do if you were in our situation. My son is one of many that can't afford to live without his Medicaid .

Sincerely,

Lorena Hernandez, Resource Parent

Name

Oxnard, Ventura County

City or County

93033

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have two kids with Diagnosis of autism, both under MediCal.

In 2004 when we started ABA services, ABA was financed for regional center, for my kids this was the difference between success and segregation.

My oldest, Max Rivera, 16 years old had ABA therapy for 4 years and graduate to move to Social Skills training, he was there for 6 years and graduate to move to real word, real experiences...well...he is playing football, going to school (full included) and one day he will have a work and pay back all that money that MediCal invested in him.

My young boy, Chris Rivera, 14 years old had ABA therapy for 6 years. Chris started social skills training 6 years ago, he still receiving services and MediCal is financing the cost. Chris will need help the rest of his life, but with out therapy the cost of his needs will be increase in a significant amount.

Thanks to MediCal my kids will have a better life!!

Let's keep it like this for future kids not only in CA but Nation wide.

Sincerely,

Maribel Hernandez

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95823

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



June 8th, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

I Have Been Disabled Since Birth, I have Cerebral Palsy. Because I am unable to work, I rely on SSI in order to pay my rent and bills. Because I receive SSI, I also receive Medi-Cal. It is because of these services I receive, I am able to live my life. Be it daily task or stay on top of my health. Just the thought of having these services cut will hurt me and the other disabled folks. Please do all you can to help us preserve these much needed services.
thank you.

Sincerely,

Ramon Hernandez

Name

Ventura, County

City or County

93001

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Because of Medicaid, which funds services i receive from Regional Center and IHSS, i can live a safe a healthy life. I was born with developmental delyas. I cannot take care of myself and need a lot of care from my family and Regional Center to keep me safe. If there were not programs like these i could possibly end up homeless in the future. These programs are important to my and the well-being of many of my peers. Taking these programs away will have a really bad effect on people with disabilities who need help and are already limited to what they can do.

Sincerely,

Ramon Hernandez

Name

La mirada, Los Angeles County

City or County

90638

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have an autistic minor child. That only says it all. By taking away the coverage, will mean my autistic son will not have the benefits to cover the expenses. I'm in a single parent with only one income coming in. This will be a great hardship for anyone with disabilities who is covered under the plan. Please do not take away the coverage. So many more Americans will be without any health coverage. It will cause chaos in the medical industry.

Sincerely,

ROSA HERNANDEZ

Name

GRANADA HILLS, Los Angeles County

City or County

91344

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son Jaime Herrera is autism he don't talk is little hard to comunicate with him I don't have the money to pay insurance medical is a big help for my son Jaime without medical we can not pay all services that Jaime needs.

Sincerely,

Humberto Herrera

Name

Lower Lake, Alameda County

City or County

95457

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Senior advantage saved my life.

Sincerely,

Randy Hicks

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95815

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the parent of a son who is a young adult with autism. Because he suffers from anxiety and obsessive compulsive disorder he is on medication that we receive from Medicaid. How does Medicaid help me? I am 62 years old and was laid off from work last year, and my husband had quit his job many years ago in order to care for our autistic son. Having Medicaid cover our son's medication has made a tremendous impact in the quality of our lives and I beg you to not deny this benefit from the developmentally disabled community.

Sincerely,

Audrey Hillgrove

Name

San Carlos, Alameda County

City or County

94070

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

This is a terrifying time for persons with developmental disabilities, their families and friends, and those who support them in care and services. My 33 year old daughter, Anna Hoban, who was born through no fault of her own, or her parents, as a member of the very most vulnerable members of our society. They are true victims and have been forced to depend on the resources of their government. By the way, when individuals began moving out of state hospitals or developmental centers in the late 1970's, the Lanterman Act was put into law to GUARANTEE that the funds that used to be applied to these very restrictive institutions would always follow them into the communities in which they resided. These are LAWS that were promised to never diminish or disappear. We are not asking for favors, but rather only that the state abides by their own laws. My wife, Bonnie Mintun, and I have contributed to decades of public service in our state's public schools and in a variety of other roles, so we have always had a hard time asking for things, rather than contributing them.

My daughter has a variety of very significant disabilities from birth including serious cognitive delays, cerebral palsy, a seizure disorder, scoliosis, and cortical vision impairment. Despite this she has lived a rich life both at home and in her larger community. She lived with us for decades and of late has finally been able to live in her own apartment in Davis several miles from our home with a college roommate and with the services of a supportive living agency called Creative Living Options, (C.L.O.) with a base in Sacramento. Anna has wonderful staff members, who work for such little money, who support her in her own home. Even today-it is very difficult to attract employees because of the difficult work, long hours and especially low, unfair pay. Anna also has the services of another gifted and deeply caring staff for her day program in Davis called Community Employment Services (C.E.S.) Financial challenges and staffing difficulties also effect this agency. The cuts that we all so

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



deeply fear are being proposed now in the US Senate replacing Obama Care with likely very drastic cuts to the MediCAL (Medicaid in our state). I am not an expert on how many actual dollars are being currently derived from MediCAL for Anna's community and living services and effect both agencies and their employees, but I suspect that these are very, very significant amounts, and will cause irreparable and tragic results for our daughter and our family as they will for all of Anna's Davis disabled friends and their families if our representatives do not treat their needs with humanity.

We are all BEGGING you not to desert us in this time of great need. We do not want to be part of a society that abandons its most fragile and innocent members for tax cuts for the wealthy, particularly since California law has ever guaranteed these rights, laws and entitlements. For God's Sake, please do not allow ANY cuts to MediCAL or Medicaid Nationally. This is an issue of the deepest justice and we need leaders who can govern with conscience.

Sincerely,

Timothy Hoban

Name

Davis, Yolo County

City or County

95616

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

As far as healthcare services are concerned, I actually get both MediCare and Medi-Cal. Besides paying my MediCare premiums, Medi-Cal also pays for dental care, that I get. But it is not sufficient enough, as I can only see my dentist every once a year, although, every dentist requires a 6 month follow-up, which Medi-Cal should cover, regardless. Also, Medi-Cal does not cover root canals on the back teeth, something else that should be covered. They also don't cover deep cleanings at all, which also should be covered, regardless. As far as regional center services go, Medicaid pays for ILS services, which are vendored through STEP inc, which in my mind is the best ILS provider, prevention support services, which is vendored through Passport2Learn, tailored day services, to assist me with educational needs outside college classroom as well employment services, including job coaching, job development and job exploration. Those services are provided through Futures Explored. I also get support services during activities with my people first chapter, which are provided by The Supported Life Institute. Without those services, I don't know what I would do. I can't live with family members, because we don't always get along and/or agree. If I lived in a group home as well as an institution, I think I would go crazy and even insane. If I couldn't live on my own, meaning in my own home, I think that I would want to take my own life, although I don't have a plan, other than taking a pill, that I would want prescribed by a doctor. The regional center, thropugh Medicaid also funds Medical Alert bracelets, for people like myself, with complex medical conditions. I guess if I retaliate against congress and President Trump, for passing the repeal of the Affordable Care ACT, in any way, on social media and/or what not, I know that I will be in legal trouble. If that's the case, I don't know what other Medicaid patients and regional center clients would do, but I, for one, would think, that maybe I should give them the benifit of the doubt and take my own life instead!

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Rick Hodgkins

Name

Citrus Heights, Sacramento County

City or County

95610

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I don't know where to start at what point do I begin my story of my son he is 23 years-old He has brain damage, severe autism and is nonverbal, My son Eric has the mind of a two-year-old he has no fear and he wanders I have to keep my doors locked at all times if you take his medicaid away or cut his medicaid I would have to work outside the home which would mean Eric would have to be placed in a home, We struggle from paycheck to paycheck already with that being said my son's safety means more to me than money with that being said I would not work outside the home I have to care for Eric in ways that I would not trust anybody else to do, Eric is not potty trained at 23 years-old he can't brush his teeth he can't shower he can't cut his toenails he can't even feed himself, I would not trust anybody else to do what I do for him, my son was abused in school by the very people who are supposed to care for my son I am begging you to please keep his medicaid secure. My son is not a burden to me But I fear he would be a burden to others because of the amount of care he needs on a daily basis. Please consider his needs and the needs of all the others who are disabled and family cares for them it's not an easy job all so please don't make it an impossible job too.

Sincerely,

Tonya Hogan

Name

Jurupa Valley, Riverside County

City or County

92509

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am so grateful for MediCal/Medicaid to help with my medical costs for my epilepsy, my doctor, my medicines, and the implant in my brain. My mom is able to be home to care for me because she can get IHSS and help support me and be there for me. The East Los Angeles Regional Center helps me with places to go and people to be with for a few hours on weekdays and is helping me look for a job so I am not just sitting home feeling bad all the time having these seizures.

Sincerely,

PAUL HOGUE

Name

ALHAMBRA, Los Angeles County

City or County

91801

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter Melanie was born with a rare neurological disorder called Sturge Weber Syndrome. Now 21 years old, my husband and I worry about her abilities to live independently as an adult. She has additional medical issues related to her disease. She will need lifetime medication and services to support her. Like 80% of individuals with intellectual disabilities, she has had a difficult time finding employment and currently is unemployed. We applied to Regional Center and are relieved Melanie got accepted as a client. But it really is pointless if services will be pulled due to lack of Medicaid funding. As parents we have paid additional out of pocket for much of her growing up years for specialists, schools and therapists. However, now that she is reaching adulthood, she will need help in supporting her medical necessities especially if pre-existing diseases will not be covered by insurance. Children and young adults like Melanie, not to mention their parents, struggle daily to deal with the medical complications. It is cruel and un-American to punish this vulnerable population by pulling services and medical care.

Sincerely,

Michele Holmen

Name

Newport Beach, Orange County

City or County

92660

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid allows me to live a healthy, happy independent life. Without it my health is at risk. I will lose my IHSS care as well as the upkeep of my wheelchair. This will limit my ability to be out in the community. Please maintain the ACA AS IT IS OTHERWISE MILLIONS OF INCLUDING MY OWN WILL BE AT IN DANGER!

Sincerely,

Kim Hudson

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90025

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is extremely important for my 32-year old son with Down syndrome because of the services provided to him through our Regional Center to maintain independent living. Please consider this for his sake. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Humphreys

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92604

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Thanks to the Regional Center our premature (29 weeks at birth) twins are getting proper developmental attention and are demonstrating incredible progress. We would not be able to provide the same level of care to our boys if it weren't for the resources that Medicaid and the great state of California have provided us. Devoting resources toward creating a healthy society is the basis for any civilized country. Reduced medicaid funding hampers our ability as a State and a Nation to develop to our fullest potential.

Sincerely,

Alessandro Isaacs

Name

San Juan Capistrano, Orange County

City or County

92675

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/10/17

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi my name is Javier

I live with my sister and nephew. I attend Starting Out a day program that supports people with developmental disabilities. They help us with daily needs. They take us on outings to help other people. Clean parks and drop off clothes for the homeless. I recently had surgery and without Medicaid it would not be possible for me to have the surgery.

Sincerely,

Javier J

Name

Stockton

City or County

95207

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please continue medicaid funding for my daughter with Down Syndrome and all the others like her who need support to live in the community!

Sincerely,

Dixie James

Name

Marin County

City or County

94901

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter is an adopted (at birthday) drug baby. She is cognitive disabled and has severe apraxia which is a motor planning disability. She is also self injurious when she has major meltdowns that happen at least every other day. She has been helped through the efforts of regional center. Learning self care, learning to go and sit in church for her spiritual development, to help regulate herself, to bath, brush teeth and other skills too numerous to mention. She is in an adult day care center that gives her most soft after need and that is to be connected to others and have a place to belong. I have 6 hours of respite care a week which helps me to stay sane and to be able to have a few hours rest a week...without that I would certainly lose my health. I never wanted to use IHSS but this last year when she was aged out of the school system it provided her with continuation of speech and physical therapy and everything she needs to survive the world of the disabled. Regional center has been a blessing to our family and without it mom's just cannot do this job. It is just too difficult for families to do without outside help. We all have spent thousands upon thousands of dollars trying to get our children as well as they can be...financially we are all depleted. I haven't taken a single vacation for almost 21 years. It would be impossible for my daughter to be able to handle that kind of sensory overload and change to her routines. You will not only be harming the children but the mothers and fathers who actually suffer daily trying to help their children.

Sincerely,

Rose Marie James

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92869

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I think it is important to people like me who depend on these benefits that are provided for me. It is necessary for me to survive. I would like to advocate to protect my rights and I am not alone in this. There are many people like me out there that are also in need of these benefits. You support us, and we will support you!

Sincerely,

Robert Jasper

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95350

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Date

To whom it may concern,

I Live in a care home

I Have diabetes and I take

a Lot of different medication

For High blood pressure

cholesterol diabetes eyes

and much more if you cut my
benefits I won't be able
to live.

Sincerely,

HARRISON JEROME

Name

Stockton CA San Joaquin

City or County

95206

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/19/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid provides benefits for me to come to program where I can learn and express myself to become a better person. Program helps me earn money in my wages program where I can go shopping from Program and home. Program is also where I can see my peers and have fun. Please consider me and my peers when planning your budget.

Sincerely,

Robert Johanson

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95351

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

With the IHSS program, my daughter is able to get full time care at home where she feels safe. Without IHSS, she would need to be placed in a more expensive medical care facility with people who don't know her subtle communication methods. This would be a scary experience for my daughter since she is 14 years old physically, but only 1 year old cognitively. This would greatly reduce the quality of her life and the quality of her health care. This would be devastating to her and our family as well, not to mention more expensive for everyone. Please consider the detrimental ripple effects these cuts will cause to tens of thousands of people and families, including ours. Please don't turn our lives upside down. We need these Medicaid programs to survive. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Evan Johnson

Name

Elk Grove, Sacramento County

City or County

95757

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Jennifer Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:37 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Medicaid story

Jennifer Johnson
Menlo Park
San Mateo County, CA

Dear Senators, Congresswomen, and Congressman,

I am parent to a wonderful 9 year old boy who has a combination of medical and developmental challenges. The services that have been available to him through a combination of our private insurance and health/human services programs funded by **Medicaid**, have allowed him to make tremendous gains that he otherwise would not have made. **Medicaid** funds programs through the Regional Center that made physical, occupational, feeding, and developmental therapy available to my son from age 0-3. These services were invaluable to my son. Without them, he certainly would not have learned to walk and may have not learned how to eat. He would also likely be trapped in an internal world instead of being the happy, engaging child that he is now. Regional Center, if it is still in existence when he is older, will fund supported employment for my son which may lead to him having an income and possibly be in independent living as an adult. Regional Center has also provided much needed help in the form of respite (funded in part by Medicaid) to aid in my son's care as I have been battling cancer over the past year. Without that help, we would have been financially devastated by my son's care needs or he may have ended up in out of home placement. My son is also eligible for CCS services due to a genetic metabolic disorder (that required a liver transplant) in early infancy. CCS, primarily funded by **Medicaid**, has provided my son with much needed equipment, such as a walker, wheelchair stroller, and orthotics, all of which have led to him being able to ambulate independently. Some private insurance doesn't cover this type of equipment. Ours covers it at only 50% which leaves a huge unfunded amount when you consider that a supportive chair my son needs costs \$8,000. My son also qualifies for In Home Supportive Services (IHSS), also funded through Medicaid, due to his current level of safety needs. Our family would not be able to make ends meet if we did not receive this help from Medicaid.

The gains from these **Medicaid** funded programs may make my son independent enough that he will not rely on so many costly services as an adult. Spending money on his needs now may be the more efficient, cost-saving path. Although, like most adults with disabilities, my son's ongoing insurance could be Medicaid as he enters adulthood. If the pre-existing condition rights patients now have is not retained, my son will not be eligible for private, primary insurance which would be a huge cost savings for Medicaid.

Threatened changes to **Medicaid** and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would have immediate and devastating consequences to our family and hundreds of thousands of families across the country. **Medicaid** literally saves lives and over the long run results in lower health care costs for everyone by providing preventive care and avoiding the need for people with complex medical needs to use the ER for primary care. The ACA has dramatically reduced the ranks of the uninsured while costing less than initial estimates. Provisions like the ban on lifetime caps, banning exclusions for pre-

existing conditions and including a mandate that rehabilitation services be covered are particularly important for those with disabilities. Repealing the ACA will mean that my son would not be able to get insurance coverage when he turns 18, due to pre-existing conditions, and he may not have access to employer based insurance. Without health insurance, the costs of providing his medical care alone would bankrupt our family within a couple of years, assuming he doesn't need another transplant.

I beg you, please Do NOT allow for the repeal of ACA without a GOOD replacement that will keep individuals with disabilities and those most in need covered. Do NOT allow cuts to **Medicaid** to be part of any replacement. Do NOT allow block granting of Medicaid to be implemented. Block granting will result in devastating program cuts across many Medicaid funded programs that will contribute to people like my son and other losing access to care that have allowed them to make crucial progress, attain employment, live independently, and cost Medicaid much less in the long term. Every parent of a child with a disability wants to work toward the end goal of the highest level of independence possible. That is what we want for our kids. Please do not allow cuts to Medicaid which make these goals attainable.

Most sincerely,

Jennifer Johnson



4/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am parent to a happy, smart, and mostly healthy 9 year old boy who has had a combination of complex medical and developmental challenges over his lifetime.

Threatened changes to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would have immediate and devastating consequences to our family and hundreds of thousands of families across the country. My son is a liver transplant recipient. He will die if the currently proposed healthcare legislation passes. He won't be able to get primary insurance due to pre-existing conditions. Medicaid will be decimated and likely unable to meet his needs. This results in him not having straightforward transplant care that keeps him alive. I have breast cancer and would not be able to get primary insurance coverage due to the pre-existing condition. If I die, my son will then be at risk of out of home placement which would be more costly and would be a terrible environment for him.

The services that have been available to my son through a combination of our private insurance and health/human services programs funded by Medicaid, have allowed him to make tremendous gains that he otherwise would not have made. Medicaid funds programs through the Regional Center that made physical, occupational, feeding, and developmental therapy available to my son from age 0-3. These services were invaluable to my son. Without them, he certainly would not have learned to walk and may have not learned how to eat. He would also likely be trapped in an internal world instead of being the happy, engaging child that he is now. Regional Center, if it is still in existence when he is older, will fund supported employment for my son which may lead to him having an income and possibly be in independent living as an adult. Regional Center has also provided much needed help in the form of respite (funded in part by Medicaid) to aid in my son's care as I have been battling cancer over the past year. Without that help, we would have been financially devastated by my son's care needs or he may have

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



ended up in out of home placement. My son is also eligible for CCS services due to a genetic metabolic disorder (that required a liver transplant) in early infancy. CCS, primarily funded by Medicaid, has provided my son with much needed equipment, such as a walker, wheelchair stroller, and orthotics, all of which have led to him being able to ambulate independently. Some private insurance doesn't cover this type of equipment. Ours covers it at only 50% which leaves a huge unfunded amount when you consider that a supportive chair my son needs costs \$8,000. My son also qualifies for In Home Supportive Services (IHSS), also funded through Medicaid, due to his current level of safety needs. Our family would not be able to make ends meet if we did not receive this help from Medicaid.

The gains from these Medicaid funded programs may make my son independent enough that he will not rely on so many costly services as an adult. Spending money on his needs now may be the more efficient, cost-saving path. Although, like most adults with disabilities, my son's ongoing insurance could be Medicaid as he enters adulthood. If the pre-existing condition rights patients now have is not retained, my son will not be eligible for private, primary insurance which is currently a huge cost savings for Medicaid.

Medicaid literally saves lives and over the long run results in lower health care costs for everyone by providing preventive care and avoiding the need for people with complex medical needs to use the ER for primary care. Provisions like the ban on lifetime caps, banning exclusions for pre-existing conditions and including a mandate that rehabilitation services be covered are particularly important for those with disabilities.

I beg you, please Do NOT allow for the repeal of ACA. The AHA is NOT a replacement for ACA, it is a death sentence for my son and me and to countless others

Do NOT allow cuts to Medicaid to be part of any replacement.
Do NOT allow block granting of Medicaid to be implemented. Block granting will

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



result in devastating program cuts across many Medicaid funded programs that will contribute to people like my son and other losing access to care that have allowed them to make crucial progress, attain employment, live independently, and cost Medicaid much less in the long term. Every parent of a child with a disability wants to work toward the end goal of the highest level of independence possible. That is what we want for our kids. Please do not allow cuts to Medicaid which make these goals attainable.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Johnson

Name

Menlo Park, San Mateo County

City or County

94025

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son will die if this passes.

I am parent to a happy, smart, and mostly healthy 9 year old boy who has had a combination of complex medical and developmental challenges over his lifetime.

Threatened changes to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would have immediate and devastating consequences to our family and hundreds of thousands of families across the country. My son is a liver transplant recipient. He will die if the currently proposed healthcare legislation passes. He won't be able to get primary insurance due to pre-existing conditions. Medicaid will be decimated and likely unable to meet his needs. This results in him not having straightforward transplant care that keeps him alive. I have breast cancer and would not be able to get primary insurance coverage due to the pre-existing condition. If I die, my son will then be at risk of out of home placement which would be more costly and would be a terrible environment for him.

The services that have been available to my son through a combination of our private insurance and health/human services programs funded by Medicaid, have allowed him to make tremendous gains that he otherwise would not have made. Medicaid funds programs through the Regional Center that made physical, occupational, feeding, and developmental therapy available to my son from age 0-3. These services were invaluable to my son. Without them, he certainly would not have learned to walk and may have not learned how to eat. He would also likely be trapped in an internal world instead of being the happy, engaging child that he is now. Regional Center, if it is still in existence when he is older, will fund supported employment for my son which may lead to him having an income and possibly be in independent living as an adult. Regional Center has also provided much needed help in the form of respite (funded in part by Medicaid) to aid in my

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



son's care as I have been battling cancer over the past year. Without that help, we would have been financially devastated by my son's care needs or he may have ended up in out of home placement. My son is also eligible for CCS services due to a genetic metabolic disorder (that required a liver transplant) in early infancy. CCS, primarily funded by Medicaid, has provided my son with much needed equipment, such as a walker, wheelchair stroller, and orthotics, all of which have led to him being able to ambulate independently. Some private insurance doesn't cover this type of equipment. Ours covers it at only 50% which leaves a huge unfunded amount when you consider that a supportive chair my son needs costs \$8,000. My son also qualifies for In Home Supportive Services (IHSS), also funded through Medicaid, due to his current level of safety needs. Our family would not be able to make ends meet if we did not receive this help from Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Johnson

Name

Menlo Park, San Mateo County

City or County

94025

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/5/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Eugenia Jones i'm disabled, i have Cerbal Palsy a history of Seizures i have been this way since birth. And i suffer from Depression and Anxiety I have a Mental disability as well.

I'm writing my story because i depend on my insurance Med-cal and Medicare. It helps me to be able go to my doctors and i have more than one.

My Medi-cal and Medicare helps to to cover my medince. And anything else that i may need, like going to physical therapy, and test that i may need, lab work that the doctors orders. Etc i have many health issues because of my disability. I take medince that i rather not take but the medicines that i take are very important to my way of life and my health. I can't work because of the seizures and other health reasons.

If i loss what i have Medi- cal and Medicare i will not be able to go to my doctors appointments and i will have no way to pay for my medinces or anything else the doctors may want me to do like different tests etc.

My insurance is very important to me and if i loss it everything that i have accomplished with my health with the help of my doctors will go down hill etc.

Sincerely,

Eugenia Jones

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90065

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/6/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I told some of my story yesterday. I forget to say i receive services from the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center and from In Home Support Services and this helps me to be able to stay independent. I have been able to be on my own again. This is a plus.

My boyfriend Leland has services as well and goes to doctors and has more than one. This helps him stay healthy. He has a Mental Disability and it is important for him to be able to have, keep his insurance Medicare and Medi-cal. He takes medicines as well. This is very important for his health and way of life. He depends on his insurance Medicare and Medi- Cal and he won't be able to to pay for his medinces either. And he receives regional center services from South Central Regional Center. He is able to go to a day program to keep him active. Thanks for listening and taking interest in the disability community. We are for ever grateful.

Sincerely,

Eugenia Jones

Name

Los Angeles Ca, Los Angeles County

City or County

90065

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

IF THEY CUT OFF MY HEALTH BENEFITS
MY HUSBAN, DAUGHTER, I WOULD NOT
BE ABLE TO GET OUR MEDICATION
AND WE WOULD DIE. AND IF YOU CUT
MEDICAL WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO
SEE A PSYCHOLOGIST. MY HUSBAND
DAUGHTER & I ~~HAVE~~ SUFFER
MENTAL ISSUES.

Sincerely,

Sonia R Jones

Name

Vallejo

City or County

94589

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is 28 years old, he was born 3 months premature and has cerebral palsy. Without Medicaid he would not have access to the basic services he needs to live his life, including payments for wheelchairs, surgeries and day-today health care requirements.

He is never going to work, is a ward of the state and requires 100% support. I created a special needs trust for him, which is funded by whatever I have left upon death, and we have made this a trust that makes Medicare the beneficiary of the trust once he passes.

Please do not defund Medicaid or provide smile back grant to the states. My son should not have to fight for funding, it is part of the local safety net we all agree to as citizens of the USA.

Sincerely,

John Kalb

Name

Novato, Marin County

City or County

94945

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/01/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this for my 29-year-old daughter who was born with AICARDI SYNDROME. My husband and I didn't think of the financial impact of having a developmentally disabled child until our medical insurance premiums became more than our mortgage payment. Owning a small business, we have always paid for our own medical insurance. Medicaid has paid for the co-pay portion of our daughter's surgeries. Medicaid paid for Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy until our daughter was 18-years-of-age. Medicaid paid for her wheelchairs

Sincerely,

Alexandra Kanczuzewski

Name

Fallbrook, San Diego County

City or County

92028

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/31/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 29-year old daughter was born with a rare syndrome called Aicardi Syndrome. She is not only completely dependent for all her daily, she is also blind and has daily seizures. We pay for private medical insurance, however, if not for Medicaid she would not be able to attend an Adult Day Program. Medicaid also picks up the costs her private insurance doesn't. These days most insurance companies pay only 60% of a bill leaving 40% to the patient. If a bill is \$10,000 that would \$4,000, for ONE procedure. Our family is part of America's shrinking "middle class", we depend on Medicaid to HELP us care for our daughter. Please don't make these huge cuts to the Medicaid program; doing so will impact not only our daughter's quality of life, but all those born with developmental disabilities. We must protect this vulnerable group of U.S. citizens who have no voice!

Sincerely,

Sandra Kanczuzewski

Name

Fallbrook, San Diego County

City or County

92028

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid has been a life savor for our family. I left a job making over \$100,000 a year to care for my disabled child when he was 18 months (he is now 13). Me being home first helped me work with him and take him to daily therapies. When he was 5 years old he was approved for Medicare and he was able to get In Home Supportive Services (IHSS). Though I went from a six figure income to \$9.00 an hour as his care giver it enabled me to not have to go back to work, since we had depleted our savings the three years I had stopped working. IHSS, has helped our adult friends not have to rely on the Government as much, it has helped them become more independent in life skills, learn work skills and how to be a part of their community vs. past generations who relied 100% on the government. Cuts to medical will start an domino affect where families can no longer support their family member.

Sincerely,

Miriam Kang

Name

Long Beach, Los Angeles County

City or County

90815

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have been on Medicaid most of my life since being diagnosed with Autism and Mental Illness. I would not qualify for any other medical care to pay for needed pharmaceuticals, needed blood testing and treatments monthly. Most of my caretaking and day programs funding are threatened by the proposed new Medical plans, including IHSS. I have not heard of any replacement programs under the current government proposals.

Sincerely,

Nathan Kaplan

Name

Mission Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92692

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid helps me with my doctors appointments, medication, and to live life to the fullest.

Sincerely,

Matthew Karow

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95350

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/21-2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

"Don't" Take Medi-Cal away from us
or special needs care homes
we need our special things to
~~things~~ survive. The things we need
helps us function in our everyday
lives. We need our homes and our
equipments and programs.

Sincerely,

Rosa Domnick

Name

5400 7th Sanderway

City or County

95209

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

The welfare and well-being of my younger daughter is the most important thing in my life. After years of jumping through hoops, challenging what is generally considered to be a good public school system, and finally receiving validation for what I knew were issues from the time she started preschool, my daughter has finally been accurately diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (she is now 20). In the past 2+ years, since her disability was formally recognized, we have been able to access numerous programs that we hope will help my daughter live an independent life to her fullest potential. Without the continued assistance of the Regional Center of the East Bay and all the programs they fund and represent, much of the help my daughter needs would be unattainable. When my wife and I pass on (we are older parents, both retired), or when my daughter exceeds the age where she can be carried on one of our health insurance policies, the availability of Medicaid is a life-saving relief to all of us. Our hope is for our daughter to be as independent and self-sustaining as possible as she lives her life in our absence, with reliance on SSI and Medicaid only when absolutely necessary to live a safe, productive and successful life in the community. As I approach my own twilight years, the existence of the safety net of public assistance for my disabled daughter affords our family a measure of peace of mind, knowing my daughter's minimal needs will be taken care of in my absence.

Sincerely,

Doug Kawabata

Name

Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County

City or County

94595

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My disabled son became infected with hepatitis C from dental work. After a long approval process, his Doctor ordered a 6-8 week therapy requiring medication costing \$1200 a pill take twice daily. It was not for MediCal, I just do not know how my family and I could afford the therapy. Without this assistance, we would have had to file for bankruptcy.

Sincerely,

KE

Name

Placentia, Orange County

City or County

92870

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Farrand S. Keefer is now 31 years old. He lives in an independent housing facility specializing in my son's medical needs. He is Down Syndrome and Autistic. He was born with a congenital heart defect, and suffers from grand mall seizures. Without Medicaid insurance he would not survive. I beg you to vote down the 880 billion dollar cut to Medicaid, and all aspects of the medical bill proposed in the Senate. It is paramount as a society, we take care of our most vulnerable, poor and elderly. We are the only developed nation that does not provide sufficient affordable medical coverage for it's citizens. Please consider the quality of life my son would have without adequate medical coverage.

Sincerely,

Wilhelmina Keefer

Name

San Clemente, CA, Orange County

City or County

92673

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

Dear Rep Feinstien and Rep Harris ,

My name is Nathan KEMP. I live in
Stockton CA 95219. I have

Medical needs

_____ and have many
friends in the community who would be affected
also.

The health care reform bill 1628 would
devastate my life by taking away funding for

services

like transportation.

Please vote no to taking away my lifeline for
healthcare and community support that helps me
grow and work. Thank you for considering my voice!

Thank You,

Nathan KEMP



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Amy Kempton and I work as a service coordinator at Redwood Coast Regional Center in Eureka California in the Early Start department. We serve infants with developmental delays and their families. It has been a pleasure and a joy to serve families in my community and see the important gains young children make from early intervention. Many of the services my clients receive are funded through Medicaid. Many of the young families I serve rely on Medicaid to fund the therapies their infants and toddlers receive. This includes intensive behavior services for infants and toddlers with autism as well as occupational and physical therapies for infants with physical disabilities. Early intervention can prevent a lifetime of disability. Please consider this when voting on the new healthcare law. Cutting funding for these programs now is short sighted and will only lead to more costs down the road when children enter school and do not have the skills necessary to succeed. Please don't take from the most vulnerable in our society so that the most privileged can pay less taxes. I like to believe that we are a compassionate society that sees the benefits to us ALL by caring for and helping those in need. Please don't let us down.

Sincerely,

Amy Kempton

Name

Eureka, Humboldt County

City or County

95501

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

To all programs I receive care and medical support from, also it is covered under medicaid . I know for myself without this full care I would end up in a nursing home or would pass away quicker even at my young age due to my volume of conditions . I ask all concerned in this matter keep these systems in place so others like me can enjoy a good full life as well. Respectfully, mom and grand mom of # 8 kids.

Sincerely,

Christine Kent

Name

Costa Mesa, Orange County

City or County

92626

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is almost 7 years old with severe developmental delays, Cerebral Palsy and intellectual disability. He needs help in ALL area of living and still wears diapers. He cannot feed, bathe, or dress himself. Medicaid helps funds his diapers when our PPO insurance denies it. Can you imagine paying for 8-10 diapers a day at \$1 per diaper? It would cost us close to \$3,600/year and this will be for the rest of his life. We are so thankful that Medi-cal helps covers that portion of James' life. In addition to diapers, Medi-cal helps covers the copayment of ALL of James' special equipment: wheelchair, special needs car seat, AFOs, gait trainer/walker, and therapies. Thanks to Medi-cal, James can receive behavioral therapies at our home to help him learn some of the daily functions and to help him with his tremendous tantrums. Our family would not survive without Medi-cal. I had to quit my job to become James' full time caregiver as he needs 24/7 care in all area of his life. I have to carry him in/out of bed, car seat, high chair, and everything else. With the help of in home supportive services, it helps us supplement a small portion of our income. Again, Medi-cal is a huge part of our lives--we want our son to live a healthy and comfortable life at home as long as he can and Medi-cal supports that. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

James Kent

Name

Yorba Linda, Orange County

City or County

92886

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/21/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

DJ is 22 years old and relies on Medicaid (MediCal here in California) to pay for treatments related to his various conditions: Down syndrome, heart disease, lung disease, Autism, GERD, G-Tube feedings, vision impairments and skin conditions. He relies on Medicaid funding for IHSS to pay his mom to be home to care for him, take him to doctor appts, bathe, dress, feed, clean, launder, provide safe oversight and do therapies with him. Medicaid pays for Regional Center services so DJ has had training in how to behave appropriately in the community, to shop and to attend events in his community that help him and his family to connect and learn more about his conditions and how to help him. He is a vital part of training others about what life is like with a disability through his church and social networks. Medicaid helps to make sure DJ stays healthy and gets out into the community and does not have to live in an institution. Caps or block grants to states would mean less for those with the highest needs, like DJ. Cuts to Medicaid would mean that DJ would be at risk of losing the supports, services and level of medical care he has now. DJ, and many others like him, rely on our elected representatives to make decisions that will mean their needs are met throughout their lives. Please make good decisions for DJ.

Sincerely,

DJ Kenworthy

Name

West Sacramento, Yolo County

City or County

95605

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



June 20, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please do not cut our programs,
and our healthcare, our freedoms,
and survival depend on it

Sincerely,

James Klebba

Name

Manteca, CA

City or County

95336

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



June 20, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

my name is Tammy Irene Koch
please stop cutting ~~health~~ health care,
and doctor health care please stop cut
back our wheel chairs and walkers and our
please stop cutting our care and freedom
~~our stops~~ our stop take our free dom
please stop cut our go to dental work
stop take our health care aizte blood
work if you don't stop cut our health
care we need go to doctor

Sincerely,

Tammy

Name

Stockton San Joaquin Co.

City or County

95204

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

When I first stepped foot in the healthcare field, I knew I wanted to support organizations that value community integration. My heart fills with joy as I watch Raymond, my 27 year old autistic brother live independently within his community. Raymond is on the severe side of the autism spectrum with limited respite funding. Several people told us our only options were to look at group homes, sleep away camps or care for him ourselves without any financial support. After sleepless nights, research and countless years of fighting, Raymond now receives structured services that are shaped to fit his needs. Despite his disability, he has a life full of community based activities. Raymond has a part time job on Tuesdays, watches the horse races on Sundays and takes pride in his weekly grocery runs to the local Trader Joes. Just last week my old high school friend sent a selfie of her sitting next to Raymond on the Bart (subway) heading to San Francisco. Raymond, traveling with his staff, recognized her through the crowd of people and sat next to her for the rest of the trip. This might sound like an insignificant event but receiving this photo brought tears of joy to my eyes. While riding public transit amongst his peers, my brother had a casual encounter with an old friend, an experience most of us take for granted. The road to get here wasn't easy and wouldn't be possible without the support of medicaid. These services enable him to be an active participant in the world around him, adding to his overall health and happiness. I want to make these experiences become a reality for more people like my brother.

Sincerely,

Elise Kohl-Grant

Name

Union City, Alameda County

City or County

94536

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Raymond is 27 years old and lives in his apartment with supported living services in Berkeley. He enjoys hiking, volunteering at Meals on Wheels, going grocery shopping and to museums and attending community events. Raymond was dealt a tough hand. He is diagnosed with a developmental disability, autism (he's nonverbal), and with cluster headaches, but he lives a full life in the community. He's happy and an inspiration to many people. Medicaid makes the life Raymond leads possible, not only helping with medical issues, but also with the wrap around services that keep him out and about and engaged with life in the Bay Area. Please do not relegate Raymond, or countless others like him, to a confining institutional life. Raymond needs medicaid.

Sincerely,

Raymond Kohl-Grant

Name

Berkeley, Alameda County

City or County

94702

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I was born with Cerebral palsy, Hypomyelination & seizures. My mom has been my only caretaker since I was 3 years old. Medicaid has saved my life many times since my mom could not afford to pay for my hospital, doctors and medication expenses.

Why would anyone want me die because we cannot afford Healthcare?

I am only 26 years old and have so much joy to spread on earth. Please allow me to continue to be healthy and bless your life with knowledge that it is with in your ability to do it.

Sincerely,

Adam Korbeck

Name

Whittier, Los Angeles County

City or County

90604

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has autism. He is developmentally handicapped to the point he will need life long care & supervision basically equivalent to a pre-teen child. Due to his pre-existing condition he will always need Medicare or Medicaid. Because the insurance companies have a choke hold on spineless greedy politicians who are enabled by party loyal morons who vote them into office we as citizens must demand care & funding for the disabled.

Sincerely,

Eric Korbly

Name

McKinleyville, Humboldt County

City or County

95519

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Granddaughter (Anna-Claire) has Autism

Her heroic parents need to trust that in addition to their own dedicated effort, there is a network of community support to ensure that Anna-Claire has a continuity of care throughout her lifespan.

An ethical, moral and humane society would supply this "right."

We need to do this now.

Sincerely,

Arthur Kornhaber M .D.

Name

Ojai, Ventura County

City or County

93023

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our son Nicholas diagnosed with autism 16 years ago when he was two years old. As a parent, it was the toughest day of my life. My wife and I worked tirelessly to improve Nickolas so he could try to lead a life of independence. But to be a valuable productive member of society in the future is based on his ability to able to function in a independent living and working environment. Nickolas is going to college in September, something I could not have imagined 16 years ago. Nick's opportunity to receive a "higher education and the training to be independent is only based on the funding available from Medicaid. We are extremely fortunate that through everyone who has helped Nickolas over the last 16 years that he is "High Functioning" autistic and with the proper training can live a productive life in the "normal world", something every disabled person needs to not be a future drain on society.

Sincerely,

Ralph Kosmides

Name

San Juan Capistrano, Orange County

City or County

92675

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi my name is Arthur Koutsenko and I'm 27 years old. In 2014 I graduated with a Bachelor degree from Biola University and I have a moderate case of Cerebral Palsy and I can't find a job ever since I graduated because of my disability. I'm living off ssi and I might go into full time ministry and I want to get married to a young lady from Ukraine. I'm writing to you for her. She will need Medicaid because when she will be pregnant we can't afford appointments and a nice hospital to have the baby and we want a good hospital to have the baby. We will not have the baby in the woods where something bad could happen. And another situation is I know a old couple name sarah and nahum okner. They have bad health and nahum has a walker and he has breathing problems and so without Medicaid they will die.

Sincerely,

Arthur Koutsenko

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92603

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a 27 year old adult with autism. My parents gave me Blue Shield health insurance when I was little. I lost my regular health insurance when I got too old. Now, the only health insurance I have is Medi-Cal. If I get really sick, I will die. Please don't let President Trump and the Republicans let me and my friends die because we have no more health care.

Sincerely,

Brian Koyasako

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95831

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA). I have a daughter who severely disabled. I have also health issues and need specialists and medications. My daughter is on Medicaid (Medi-Cal). I have insurance through the ACA. If you take away from either of these programs, our lives will be intensely effected.

Please reconsider. Many other families with circumstances similar to mine will be devastated without the social and medical supports we so drastically need.

Sincerely,

Doreen Kuneck

Name

Merced, Merced County

City or County

95341

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



0-21-2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE CARE MTD-CALD FROM US
BECAUSE WE NEEDS IT
PLEASE DO NOT TAKE OUR CARE
THANK YOU

Sincerely,

GARY KYLIE

Name

TRACY CA

City or County

95770

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Without Medicaid, I wouldn't have been able to walk because of the 21 surgeries I've had to help me get as far as I have. I'm grateful for it and as it may not be perfect, it helps many that need it. My sons are both diagnosed with autism. It helps with the therapy they need to function in life. I don't know where me or my children would be without it. There is no way I could've ever afford to pay for everything outright or an insurance that would cover us at an affordable rate. Obamacare saved us.

Sincerely,

Tanya L.

Name

Gardena, Los Angeles County

City or County

90249

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has autism spectrum disorder and very severe apraxia of speech. He needs intensive and continuous therapy sessions. MediCal helped us in providing the ABA and other therapy treatments he needs which is not covered or has limited coverage by our private insurance company. My son would not be able to progress as much as he does today without the help from MediCal. The IHSS is also a life saver for us. My son needs 24/7 supervision due to his disability, and IHSS allows me to take a better care of him. The support from MediCal is very important for our family's financial situation and is very important for my son! We are glad that he's improved so much through the therapy and treatments MediCal provides. MediCal gives my son a future!!

Sincerely,

Julie Lai

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92620

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son was born with developmental disorder. He relies on Medical to stay insured by medical health coverage as he will not have the ability to get other health coverage. He also relies on IHSS support as he is not able to live independently without any support and supervision on his daily life. It is vital for him to continue having the same coverage to live healthily and be supported. Please do not reduce funding in this regard as it will affect his life significantly. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Lai

Name

San Francisco, County of San Francisco

City or County

94122

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid helps my Mom to continue living under the same roof with her children. Without Medicaid/medical, she wouldn't be getting the in-home service, which meant she would have to visit the hospital even for a small problem. That will cost more money than an in-home service. Without Medicaid/medical, her cost of medicine, hospital, etc. will be much higher. Her children won't be able to afford to keep her at home. They are forced to send her to nursing home. The cost for nursing home is not cheaper and she eventually ends her life without dignity.

Please help keep our Mom to live with her children, grandchildren, live with dignity in the last part of her life.

Sincerely,

Linh Lam

Name

Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County

City or County

91745

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi, I am a woman, wife, artist and mother of three daughters, my youngest with severe autism. She is now 26 years old and continues to be challenged with language deficits and maladaptive behaviors. During a portion of her teen years she was placed in a crisis home and then other level 4 group homes and now is residing with both me and my husband, her father. She currently gets Medicare and Medi-Cal. She will need continued personal and monetary assistance the rest of her life as she is not able to care for herself safely. I am currently 61 years old and my husband is 67. When the time comes that we are no longer physically able to take care of her, she will need to be placed back in a facility. She will also continue to need governmental assistance as these type of services are paid by agencies like Medicaid MediCal and Medicare. I have seen so many people like myself who have tried to hold the best vision for their children even when it is a great burden on the family. To reduce any kind of supports that would help our children reach next levels of independence and protect them from harm is NOT an option. Unlike Hitler, we do not line up people who some consider not worthy of living, and shoot them or put them in a gas chamber. By removing support and funding from this population, ultimately the United States government is responsible for the demise of individuals who can only survive with extra assistance. I hope you will consider your hearts when you vote against any reduction of services for the disabled community. Please help us have faith in you! Sincerely, I remain an American citizen who believes in humanity. Betty Jean Lane. PS. The attached photograph is a painting I created of my daughter with autism. The colors and symbols tell the story of her challenges successes and hope for her future. From baby to aged woman, she will always be challenged along the way. Titled "in a wink of an eye"

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Betty Jean (Bj) Lane

Name

Fallbrook, San Diego County

City or County

92028

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



7/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Please do not cancel the Medicare benefits that provide for at home care. Our friend Jessica Leoni, age 20, has been suffering from Neiman Pic C disease the past 17 years and is bedridden.

Sincerely,

Linda Lareau

Name

Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County

City or County

91765

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

There was an especially stressful time (raising our daughter who is on the autism spectrum) when we couldn't handle living with her anymore: outbursts, non-compliance, misunderstandings, frustration, violence. This was during her high school years. We needed her to live elsewhere to save our sanity. Regional Center stepped in with a wrap-around program for the family (In-Home Support Services (IHSS)) which they do to try and keep a child living at home, which is proven to be better for child and family. A trained aide came out twice a week for a couple hours to take her from school to appointments, on errands, like shopping-- to teach life skills. Plus there were monthly meetings with the aide, her supervisor and our family. A second service was crisis intervention where highly skilled crisis counselors were available to come to our house when necessary. Regional Center provided support for our family when we were at a crisis point and gave our daughter a person outside the family that she trusted, respected and looked forward to seeing which lasted for two years. We're thankful to Regional Center of the East Bay, which is funded by Medicaid. This was 9 years ago, and today our daughter is on track and attending college. She still requires health insurance and prescriptions. We hope someday that she will be self-supporting (in 7 years-- everything takes much longer for persons on the autism spectrum) but Medicaid is her safety net and we're thankful it exists. Please work to keep this safety net for all disabled persons.

Sincerely,

Laurie Lau

Name

Fremont, Alameda County

City or County

94536

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

is this about medical I do not know what the one u are talking about. I do not have a good story it is all very awful I want to stay on straight medical not managed care I ca not get the help I need see the same doctors or even go see someone with in my area but on straight medical i can I went for the hearing they denied me saying I am stable which I am not are you going to help me?"

Sincerely,

Asimina Laudis

Name

Highland, Alameda County

City or County

92346

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid help provides assistance for caregivers to come into our home to relieve some of the daily caregiving that I require giving respite for my aging parents.
Corey L. Foothill Ranch CA

Sincerely,

Corey Lawrence

Name

Foothill Ranch, Orange County

City or County

92610

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am currently unemployed on Medi-Cal. I have depression and I am seeking medical attention for my illness. Any cuts in my benefits can lower the quality of my health.

Sincerely,

Joseph Lee

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92602

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website : www.scdd.ca.gov · email : council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



August 7, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our story began when our son was born. Dylan's medical history at his short 7 years of life is nothing like any other non-Medicaid family. Dylan requires monthly specialist appointments, inpatient treatments, more meds than adults will ever take, ongoing weekly therapies, etc. Our family relies on Medicaid to help pick up some of the cost. Example, how many 7 years old are still in diapers? Is your 7 year old on psych meds and special diet? Are you able to run simple errands like going to the grocery store, filling up the car with gas? Families like ours are not, without the assistance of respite care through regional center. IHSS is another program that is so beneficial. I was only able to work 1 year until the appoints, sick days (for my son, not me) wore out where I needed to resign. IHSS allows caregivers to maintain a financial position and still be able to care for their loved ones. I ask you to please contact some of the families like ours and truly get a basic understanding of what Medicaid is used for.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Lees

Name

El Cajon, San Diego County

City or County

92019

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



July 25, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our wonderful son is 9 years old and happens to have Down syndrome. He is a brother too, and a friend to many. His name is Brayden. Brayden has had a great life and receives services to help with his everyday struggles and successes. Please do not take this funding away as it has helped our family tremendously!

Sincerely,

Darlana Lehnick

Name

Clovis, Fresno County

City or County

93611

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Watch the video in this page and read the stories. This is my story and we started a clinic to meet the unmet needs of people with developmental disabilities.

<https://achievable.org/>

Sincerely,

Danise Lehrer

Name

Venice, Los Angeles County

City or County

90291

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 27, 2017

Date

Dear Congressperson:

I am writing to you today regarding the upcoming proposed cut to Medicaid spending. There are many Americans whose mere existence depends on the funds currently available to families living with catastrophic diseases. I'd like to tell you about one of those families.

My brother Anthony and his wife Lisa are recipients of Medicaid, Medi-Cal, and In-Home Support Services for their daughter Jessica. Jessica is living with a horrific neuro-degenerative disease called Neimann-Pick Type C. This disease has robbed my niece Jessica of her abilities to eat, walk, talk, and take care of herself. She suffers from seizures, and is prone to pulmonary issues.

The government funds that assist Anthony's family, and the In-Home assistance that has been made available to them allows both Anthony and Lisa to continue to hold down jobs so that they may maintain their own and Jessica's healthcare plans, as well as pay their mortgage and other household expenses. And these government benefits allow them to be available to spend quality time with their precious daughter and to be a family; without the devastating effects of exhaustion by being Jessica's primary caregivers.

Jessica, on the other hand, gets to live to teach others about the power of pure love because that is who she is. My 91 year old mother has said for years, "That kid has touched so many people. It's unbelievable."

Jessica's light is able to shine because she is well taken care of and given love by her family.

The loss of any of the services which Jessica currently receives would be devastating to her family and dangerous to Jessica's well-being.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



PLEASE vote AGAINST any cuts to these services that Jessica and others receive. Doing so would assure that those who benefit from these services can continue to thrive, and that their families may continue to be strong so that they may have the energy to fight the fight for their loved one's lives.

Sincerely,

Deborah G Leoni

Name

Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

City or County

95404

Zip Code



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My brother Anthony and his wife Lisa are recipients of Medicaid, Medi-Cal, and In-Home Support Services for their daughter Jessica. Jessica is living with a horrific neuro-degenerative disease called Neimann-Pick Type C. This disease has robbed my niece Jessica of her abilities to eat, walk, talk, and take care of herself. She suffers from seizures, and is prone to pulmonary issues.

The government funds that assist Anthony's family, and the In-Home assistance that has been made available to them allows both Anthony and Lisa to continue to hold down jobs so that they may maintain their own and Jessica's healthcare plans, as well as pay their mortgage and other household expenses. But primarily, these government benefits allow them to be available to spend quality time with their precious daughter and to be a family; without the devastating effects of exhaustion by being Jessica's primary caregivers.

Jessica's light is able to shine because she is well taken care of and given love by her family.

The loss of any of the services which Jessica currently receives would be devastating to her family and dangerous to Jessica's well-being.

PLEASE vote AGAINST any cuts to these services that Jessica and others receive. Doing so would assure that those who benefit from these services can continue to thrive, and that their families may continue to be strong so that they may have the energy to fight the fight for their loved one's lives.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



Sincerely,

Mark Leoni

Name

Glendale, Los Angeles County

City or County

91204

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has severe special needs that require medications costing more than \$10,000 per month. Without Medicaid's help, there is no way he can maintain his current health status and continue to enjoy life despite all his challenges.

Sincerely,

Lilian Leung

Name

Campbell, Santa Clara County

City or County

95008

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this on behalf of my 30 year old severely handicapped Autistic son, Brian, because he is unable to do it for himself. Brian lives in a group home that provides him 24 hour care, including self help care, health and medication supervision, living skills and behavioral support. Brian receives his assistance through a combination of Social Security, Medicaid, Goodwill and Regional Center support and depends on these services for his very survival. Medicaid pays for his prescription drugs. Brian takes medicine for a seizure disorder, severe anxiety and mood disorder as well as medicine to help control his self-stimulatory behavior allowing him to live in our society. Through Medicaid supported assistance and with the help of a job coach, Brian works during the day at a local restaurant cleaning tables, rolling up knives and forks in a napkin and helping to get to-go bags ready. Because of this assistance Brian loves to work, come home on the weekends, and participate in activities with his group home. In addition, Brian's mother passed away last year leaving me as his sole protector. Please, please, please do not marginalize the weakest members of our society by cutting funds that assist the disabled and allow them to become productive citizens. When did America lose their heart and soul? The lives of millions of disabled children and their families hang in the balance. These basic services allow him to avoid being sent to an expensive institution. Please do the right thing for Brian and all of the disabled young people and their families in our country. We live in the greatest and richest country in the world. Ghandi said, A nation's greatness is measured by how it treats its weakest members. "Stand up for what is right. Brian and millions of disabled people are counting on you."

Sincerely,

Jon Levy

Name

Lake Forest, Orange County

City or County

92630

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



June 8, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

MediCALD. My name is Robert Levy from Costa Mesa, California. Medicaid is important to me because I can get my prescriptions, I can see a doctor, I can live my life the way it is supposed to be.

I go to the Integrity House and have learned how to use computers. I am a member of the Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) which helps me to speak up for myself and other with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Robert Levy

Name

Orange County

City or County

92625

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/9/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

Even though I'm not currently on medical
I don't think taking medical away
there would be no solution to do that. People
with disabilities should have medical
because they don't have the money to afford
to get like people who don't have disabilities.
Just

Sincerely,

Robert Jones

Name

Oranjerale Sacramento County

City or County

95662

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



JULY 14 / 17

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have high blood pressure
and need to go to the doctor
I go to day program
that teaches me how to
speak up for my rights.
they help me to learn
to stay calm. I take
MV transportation to
go to program. please don't
cut my services to live.

559-485-7430

559-447-5109

FEINSTEIN

Sincerely,

Dixie Lewis

Name

Stockton

City or County

95204

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



June 21-2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DON'T TAKE MY
~~WORD~~ ~~FOR~~ ~~ON~~ ~~INSURANCE~~. I WON'T
be able to see the doctor
or get medicine. Please
CONSIDER how it will IMPACT
OUR ~~LIVES~~ LIVES.

thank you!!!

Sincerely,

ASHLEY LINDSEY

Name

MANTICA

City or County

95366

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Without IHSS for my daughter with Down syndrome, we would not be able to keep our home, keep her in a healthy independent life. This has enabled us to provide for her, teach her and monitor her care. Our family could not survive without it!

Sincerely,

Nancy Litteken

Name

Pasadena, Los Angeles County

City or County

91104

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Dear folks of Congress, I am a person with Down Syndrome. I receive Medicaid so I can see my doctors, go to the hospital if needed and have prescription drug coverage. My only income is SSI. Because of Medicaid I can go to Whittier Adult Day Health Center who has nurses and staff who can help me be more independent as well as safe. Medicaid also pays In Home Supportive Services which make it possible that I can live an independent life at home with the caregivers of my choice. Without Medicaid I would have to go into a Nursing Home costing the state of California so much more money. Medicaid is good for me and good for the economy. Please do not cut Medicaid Services. My life depends on it. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindy Lok

Name

Pico Rivera, Los Angeles County

City or County

90660

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regards to my 32 year old Son who is 4' 8" and is 80 lbs and lives with me and my Husband because we know of no other way of life and he would know no other way to live. My husband worked hard on one job for 35 years and took on a second job for the last 10 years of his working years

Sincerely,

Karen Long

Name

Santa Ana, Orange County

City or County

92706

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Janie Longo [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 4:55 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Medicaid Cuts

My son Nicholas has moderate autism. As a Regional Center client, he receives a few hours each month for recreational activities. Since social deficits are common with people who have autism, he has trouble making and keeping friends. If there were no social activities or group sports for him to participate in, he would sit at home every evening and each weekend. His participation in the New Horizon's program which is funded by his Regional Center, allows him to have the opportunity to attend social outings with his peers. He has gone to amusement parks, beach outings, bowling leagues, movies and dinner and may other events. This has been a blessing for him as well as for my husband and myself who rarely get to have an evening together without him.

In addition to respite for us as caregivers, Medi-cal pays for his speech therapy. As he got older the school system offered less and less speech therapy. When he was tested again by a speech pathologist, she scored well below the average person. His trouble with communication affects his social opportunities as well as his ability to get a job and do well at it. This service has helped him tremendously and we are hoping this year he may be able to get a job doing what he loves, working in landscaping, repairing sprinklers.

Truthfully, when I hear of cuts to these types of services that help the disabled population, I am dumbfounded. There is such a need and so many deficits already. Without programs to help them have the most productive and meaningful lives possible, it will only lead to more support needed down the road. Cutting supports seems so short-sighted. We will pay much more as a society in money, resources and quality of life if we do not provide the services needed to help them now.

Please do not cut funding to Medicaid which helps fund these programs.

Thank you,
Janie Longo
Orange County, CA



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I don't know if it is too late for my story to be heard. But this is so important not only for me but for others I thought I would try.

I am a person with extreme physical disability (paralysis) . Because of a Medicaid program called in-home supportive services I was able to not only live in my own home but support myself financially and stay off any cash assistance from the government. I did this by finding a way to work from my home with a computer.

The only help I have needed is care providers in my home which I could not pay for myself as well as all my expenses .

Without in home supportive services, I would be in an institution because I do not have family care or support.

I know the new bill SLASHES Medicaid and this will be devastating to all people in my situation. I am not talking about inconvenience – I am talking about life threatening circumstances.

At this point it sounds to me like most Republican representatives do not care at all. I am hoping to appeal to any of you out there that still have a heart left in your chest

Sincerely,

KRISTINE LOOMIS

Name

Desert Hot Springs, Alameda County

City or County

92241

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

A quienes, no saben el gran daño que van hacer!!!! Please no realicen los cortes, mi hijo tiene CP, Y POR MEDIO DEL CENTRO REGIONAL E LOGRADO UNA AYUDA MUY INDISPENSABLE PARA EL!, PODEMOS LLEVAR AL PARQUE, A SUS CITAS DE DR, SIN NINGUN PROBLEMA. POR FAVOR!!!! MUCHOS LO NECESITAMOS.

Sincerely,

Francisco Lopez

Name

Tustin, Orange County

City or County

92780

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Having my youngest child (now 23 y/o) diagnosed with a mental illness three years ago was a pretty stressful/painful, sad and challenging situation.

Although I still had him under my insurance plan, the services that he needed were not available through my insurance!

I ended up applying for Medicaid for him and he qualified. Now he has better options for his medical care.

I understand that it's costly, but it's more not having it available when needed.

Sincerely,

Maria Lopez

Name

San Jose, Santa Clara County

City or County

95136

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Maria and I have two children with special needs, My family is in low income and we can't cover with all of their medical treatments and services. Please don't cut the budget for the health care bill.

Sincerely,

Maria Lopez

Name

Downey, Los Angeles County

City or County

90241

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Susan Lopez, I have two wonderful gifts names Adriel and Jayce. Adriel was born with Autism, Jayce is a premature baby who was born with Respiratory issues and milestone delays. Thanks to medicaid both my boys are recieving the health they need. My Adriel started his special education program along with therapy two years ago. He was not able to express himself, he wasn't able to communicate at all. It was very hard for me to think my child was four and not talking. Thanks to His medicaid he wouldn't have received his help, my boy wouldn't be able to tell me. I love you alot mom" or express when he's agitated or scared. My son is able to communicate with us thanks to our health insurance. Jayce since birth he's been in and out of the Children's Hospital of OC. Wether it's out patient visits

Sincerely,

Susan Lopez

Name

Anaheim, Orange County

City or County

92801

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Jul 6, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a RN with a son who has Downs Syndrome. Fortunately he has always been covered by my health insurance. However as a maternal child health nurse, I have seen thousands of mothers and children who would have possibly died without Medicaid. In a Country as wonderful as the US, I do not understand the lack of critical thinking and consideration for the lives of so many dependent on subsidized healthcare. I worked in a PICU where critically ill or injured children were treated regardless of their legal status or insurance. I worked in an NICU where premature infants and their families were given a chance at life together and I've worked in obstetrics where critically ill pregnant moms and their newborn lives were saved. All this was possible only because the hospital was a non-profit and depended on the Medicaid and DSH funds in order to be viable and survive. As professionals we have the luxury of health care, as human beings we need to take care of those who don't.

Sincerely,

Nancy Louie

Name

Huntington Beach, Orange County

City or County

92648

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 50 yr. old adult son, who is developmentally and physically disabled and suffers with daily seizures, is now able to live in a safe, secure and healthy environment, thanks to Regional Center and the services provided to him, including IHSS and his medical care. Cutting back on Medicaid will result in disastrous consequences, (LIFE OR DEATH) for him and for many, from young children to the elderly. If our country decides to sacrifice our most vulnerable citizens, shame on our politicians who lack the courage and conscience to do the right and humane thing.

Sincerely,

Candace Lovrich

Name

Fullerton, Orange County

City or County

92835

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



May 10, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

The support I receive through V.M.R.C. allows me to live and enjoy my life, by using my wheelchair I have access to the community and my Day Programs. I can not fully walk, but with assistance of my staff at Day Programs, I am able to interact with others and go out into the community and experience life to the fullest. I can't talk if I could I would say thank you... thank you for allowing me to live my life to the fullest... thank you for the support you give my Care Home and Day Programs.

Sincerely,

William M.

Name

San Joaquin County

City or County

95207

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Without Medicaid, my 21 year old epileptic, autistic son would have no health insurance, no day programs to attend, and no protective supervision to ensure that he is personally safe. What is to happen to Jordan, and those like him who have no voice and no political clout without these safeguards? Will he survive?

How can you as our senator decide that the most fragile and weak among us is not protected for their basic needs of health, home and safety? It seems that you are in your position precisely to protect these individuals. I am a lifelong republican and a Christian, but this issue of cutting medicaid for the disabled and even just the idea that it is being considered is making me take a hard look at my political affiliations - as it is in deep conflict with my religious beliefs.

Please search your soul and do the correct thing by keeping these Medicaid programs intact.

Sincerely,

Diana MacKenzie

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92614

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Why does medic aid have to be cut, Life is very hard and we need it . We should keep it for poor people and the needy like us . people need medications and medical supplies. i am not sure how we will live if we have to get less. please vote no

Sincerely,

Daane Maclusi

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95358

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a working mother with two sons on the Autism spectrum. Both of my sons require behavior therapy and supervised supervision. I rely on the CA State programs to help me pay for these services. If they were cut my sons would not be able to receive the help they REQUIRE to learn to be self independent.

I am a tax paying American....my taxes are to support these services to help my family and all other families that live with disabled persons!!!

Sincerely,

Teresa MacNicoll

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90001

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a 7 year old son with autism and both my ex husband and I work and so our tax dollars go to this state every day. We both pay for health care coverage for our children and they don't want to cover services for our son so we need programs like this to assist our son with his disability. I would love to see our tax dollars go to work for someone that I love with all my heart. It's not easy being a single mom of 4 yet one with a disability that for the most part even effects not only his daily living but my other children's too. We can't go to theme parks like most families because it's too much for him and with programs that are currently funded little by little we are getting to that point like we were able to take him to the beach for a few hours with almost no meltdown at all. There are plenty of ways to cut back but for people and families that need this for their loved ones with disabilities isn't one of them. They never asked to be born like this. My son is beyond amazing and I know one day with the assistance of these programs and the grace of God my son will function on his own as an adult. Thank you for your time. God bless.

Sincerely,

Sonia Madera

Name

Hanford, Kings County

City or County

93230

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/7/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a son who has Phelan McDermid syndrome. We got our answers when he was 8 years old. He is now 10 y/o. His gene 23 was not fully developed and most part of the tail of this gene is not present. To better understand what he has, he is very low function - he does not have that ability to talk, learning is repetitive - he loses what he learns, has problems of low muscle tones so we have been battling with aspirations pneumonias and chronic constipation. he is still on diapers and have to be fed and to top all these he does not sleep well at night...This syndrome is very rare, it happens in 1:5 Million and it could happen to any family, as with our situation both me and his dad does not carry this genetic disorder.

This had a big impact on our family, I had to lower down my working hours, his father was on denial and left us for awhile, We lost our house and in severe debt with the expenses we had to face taking care of my son.

We got a lot of help and services from the government

During the times I had low income, we were provided WIC to supplement my Children's food.

We have supplements of diapers that my son uses.

We were able to get a wheelchair for him when my regular insurance denied us one - for the reason he could crawl from Point A - Point B at 2 y/o.

We were able to avail his leg braces and see a PT when he was younger to strengthen his core and help him to walk -- he now walks with a AFO braces.

We were able to have Medical cover the other medicines that my insurance does not cover and likewise the co-payment was also covered on my son's doctor's visit and it was a lot of visits when he was younger.

Most specially we were provided help with caring for my son - respite hours so I can spend time with my other child. Also a caregiver expense that partially covers the payment for my son's babysitter when I go to work.

Thinking back, I am not sure how I did this but I am sure I did not do this by myself. I now can say, I am back to almost full time work, paying off my debt, able to

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



afford a roof and food and clothing for my children.

I would say the services Medical, GGRC provided us is huge. I am hoping that the government consider not cutting this back.

Sincerely,

Amparo Madrigal

Name

South San Francisco, San Mateo County

City or County

94015

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6-8-2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I didn't have Medi-Cal, I would be in trouble. I live on a very tight budget. Without Medi-Cal, I could not afford my medications. I would be sick and would die. I have PTSD, and my mental state would be unbearable if I couldn't get my medications. Medi-Cal saves my life. Please do not cut it!

Sincerely,

ELEUTERIO Y. MAKINAWO

Name

[Redacted] Suisun City

City or County

94585

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Hardin, Riana@DSS

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 8:21 PM
To: Hardin, Riana@DSS
Subject: How ACA has affected my life

To whom it may concern:

I am dually diagnosed having epilepsy and psycho-affective disorder and I am a client of San Diego Regional Center. I work full time and have full benefits including an HMO. This is major accomplishment because once I received SSI medi/medi benefits living in a section #8 apartment. I have worked in my current position for 15 years. With all the therapy visits, other doctor appointments, and prescription meds that I take, I rack up sizable medical bills each year. Fortunately ACA lifts lifetime caps on group plans, as neither of my health conditions are curable. I just maintain them in a stable status. As it is my health care expenses stretch my budget and I use a flex plan account to help offset the expenses. I regularly reach my annual deductible. I also benefit from free annual health examines and free nutrition visits. I also benefit from mental health parity in benefits.

Paul

From: Mantecon, Andrea [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 2:01 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov

Medicaid is Important. The average citizen cannot pay the amount of money doctors/hospitals charge for them or their families. We depend on this. Why would the government allow this to happen?

The elderly, people with developmental delays and severe physical disabilities, as well as the mentally ill. Without this help, the disabled would have to rely on family and friends to pay the steep costs for their care, which may last a lifetime.

Medicaid supports middle-class Americans and the Americans who are most vulnerable. Don't do this! Take care of the people. Money should be spent on quality of life. Basic needs. Everyone in this country should have a roof over their head, have food to eat, get an education, clean water to drink and shower and to see a doctor and not become poor because of it. Everyone who wasn't born healthy and needs to be taken care of by their loved ones for the rest of their life should be able to see a doctor and not worry about becoming poor or watching them live without quality of life. Every elderly person should be taken care of because it's the right thing to do. We live in the greatest country with so many blessings and abundance of resources that we waste. Do the right thing.

Have a conscience. My name is Andrea Mantecon from Sacramento in the great state of CALIFORNIA and the mother of a beautiful girl with Autism who will need care/services the rest of her life. Don't do this to my baby.



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

As a father of 2 kids with autism IHSS has allowed me to provide for my kids while at the same time allowing me the opportunity to stay home and care for them. I quit my full time job five years ago to do so because at the time, my two year old was being abused at the day care that we were taking him to. My son is non verbal to this day and I dread thinking of the idea of having someone else look after him. If someone were to hurt him he wouldn't be able to tell me. That's just one of the reasons IHSS is so important to my family. I'd hate to think of the repercussions of what cuts made to Medicaid would mean for my family and others like us.

Sincerely,

Jose Manzanares

Name

Anaheim, Orange County

City or County

92801

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My sons were born at 31 weeks of age. Due to their prematurity they have had some physical and developmental delays. With the help of the state funded CCS and county regional occupational therapy programs, we have been able to get them the help they need to cope with, and overcome those issues.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Manzano

Name

Buena Park, Orange County

City or County

90620

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6-21-2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASES DON'T TAKE ARE MED-CALD AWAY
FROM US.

THANK YOU

Sincerely,

Margarita
Name

Lathrop, CA.
City or County

95330
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Joshua, is now 20 years old and is very impacted by autism. He lives a pretty cool life. The two things that he loves the most are Disneyland and libraries... in that order. Everyday he goes to a different library in Los Angeles County. He knows almost every library — and there are 87 of them! One day a week he has a small volunteer job at the Marina del Rey library putting books out to be sold. He loves his job and hopes that it turns into something bigger in the future.

But even more than libraries, Josh loves Disneyland. He has two annual passes - one for his aide and one for himself. He gets to go to Disneyland once a month visit his favorite attraction - the Roger Rabbit ride. Even though the sound of babies crying is very difficult for him — and there are a LOT of babies at Disneyland — he has a grand time at the park while wearing a noise cancellation headset whenever a baby gets too close.

So yes, he lives a great life — but it hasn't always been this way. When Josh was young, he suffered from severe dysregulation on top of his inability to communicate how he is feeling. This often resulted in severe uncontrollable behaviors that made it very difficult for him to live a full life. But through excellent intervention by a psychiatrist and experienced behaviorists, as well as super hard work by Josh, he now lives a wonderful and meaningful life.

But let me be clear: none of this would have been possible without Medicaid. **NONE OF IT.** Medicaid helped to pay for Josh's psychiatric treatment and his behavioral intervention. Medicaid helps to pay for Josh's aide who drives him to all of the libraries and helps him at Disneyland. Medicaid helped to give Josh his life back. Without community services funded by Medicaid, Josh would cost our government so much more - because he would be living in an institution that

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

So yes, Medicaid really matters to me. And to Josh. And to our family. It saved our family. It saved Josh.

Sincerely,

Judy Mark

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90045

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our 22 year-old son with profound autism is able to live at home with us with the help of Medicaid's In Home Support Services. Without IHSS he might need to be institutionalized, which would be far more costly. Maybe our representatives in Washington think that the disabled are always someone else. "But anyone can find themselves suddenly needing to care for a severely disabled family member."

Sincerely,

Don Markley

Name

Seal Beach, Orange County

City or County

90740

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a constituent and have been providing care to the developmentally disabled population for the past 30 years. As difficult as it is right now, providing care to these Individuals with such challenging needs, it is a struggle for us and them when it comes to their medical needs. When they get sick, we have to seek medical help. Majority of the time, we sit in the ER for hours waiting for a medical personnel to attend to their problem. It is frustrating when you sit in the lobby with your client for hours; to top it all, once they get bored, they start acting up and people look at them and are puzzled with what they are witnessing. Society do not really embrace them as individuals with lifelong disabilities. In my opinion, they are still not accepted in the community.

This is the reality.

With the upcoming changes with Medicaid, we will encounter more problems than it is currently. The president do not understand this dilemma because he has not experienced this type of hardship. We have to advocate for them and give them a voice in WASHINGTON. Medical personnels aren't going to care or give a damn about their needs because all they care is how much they are going to get out of the services they will give. This is the reality and issues have been getting worse instead of getting better.

Changes to the current health care system will not only have a great impact to people with challenging needs but also the elderly who are totally depending on these services, the mentally ill population and the VETERANS who I feel has been neglected by the system.

As our voice in WASHINGTON, please vote NO for the new proposal.
Thank you very much and God bless the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Emelina Marquez

Name

Carson, Los Angeles County

City or County

90746

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/16/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hi My Name is Maria Marquez I would like to say that i'm a woman with Celebra palsy since birth when I was born my family had good insurance but when my father left us and my mother had no money we had to be welfare and Medi-Cal . I appreciate the Medi-Cal very much because I still had to have several surgeries and medical equipment to assist me for walking and special shoes if it wasn't for the Medi-Cal I don't know how my mom would have paid for my special needs. As I got older and I did apply for IHSS and that would be great for help as well. i'm just not writing this letter for myself I am writing it for the hundreds and hundreds of people with developmental disabilities that need Medi-Cal or Medicaid to living with supports so they can live a life out in the community just like everybody else thank you I hope you do consider all the letters that are being sent to continue with Medi-Cal or Medicare thank you sincerely. Maria Marquez Council member of California State Council on developmental disabilities

Sincerely,

Maria Marquez

Name

Concord, Contra Costa County

City or County

94520

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is David and I was born with Down syndrome. All my life I have needed to be cared for more than a normal person my age, because I have health issues. Right now I have services through Regional Center and In Home Support Services to assist me in a healthy happy life. Without medicade I will not have funding for the program that I attend daily to teach me life skill to help me function, such as money management and prevocational skill like cleaning, cooking and socialization. I need these services to survive and learn how to become as independent as I can be.

Sincerely,

David Martinez

Name

La Palma, Orange County

City or County

90623

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

AS A MOTHER OF A 19 YEAR OLD son WITH Down Syndrome; medicaid, along with our local regional center, have been beneficial to his overall development. Starting with early intervention, speech therapies, O.T and P.T services, transition services, family education, respite and daycare services, and now IHSS, is allowing him to choose to live safely in his community, by providing the support he needs in his daily life.

Sincerely,

Lillian MARTINEZ

Name

Quartz Hill, Los Angeles County

City or County

93536

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Damian Reed was in an automobile accident at the age of 3. He was thrown from the vehicle and hit his head at great speed. He was in stage-3 coma for 30 days; they thought he might not wake up. The brain hemorrhage caused 3rd, 4th & 5th cranial nerve damage, blinding his left eye. The hemorrhage was bleeding in his brain for hours before he was ambulance to Albuquerque Hospital. The damage was extensive and parts of his brain died. He is now 44 and because of the services and support he has been given through Regional Centers, he is now attending Santa Monica College in their ABI (acquired brain injury) program. Because of his SSI, he is living with a roommate and has Supported Living Services through Westside Regional Center in Los Angeles. WITHOUT SSI HE WOULD NOT BE WHERE HE IS TODAY. He is a productive member of society THANKS to SSI. PLEASE DO NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST HELPLESS PEOPLE who were totally innocent.

PLEASE SAVE THE QUALITY OF LIVES SSI SUPPORTS.

Sincerely,

Karon Masterson

Name

Twentynine Palms, San Bernardino
County

City or County

92277

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid matters to me because it helps keep me healthy and have medical services.

Regional Center services help me keep a job close to my home. They also help me to live on my own.

If I didn't have these services, I would be stuck without insurance and without a place to live, and that would be really bad.

Sincerely,

David Matson

Name

Ukiah, Mendocino County

City or County

95482

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7-14-17

Date

To whom it may concern,

I would like to say no to the American health care Act. I want to continue receiving my education. I need my medical to continue a health life style.

I depend on a care home as my housing. I also rely on my employment my services. Dental services is are important to me as part of my needs.

Sincerely,

Ron Gene McCallister Jr

Name

Lathrop Co,

City or County

95330

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter, Samantha, had a cardiac and respiratory arrest (of unknown cause) at age 6 months. It was devastating because she was estimated to have a loss of oxygen for 35 minutes and as a result, ended up with severe brain damage and resulting debilitating effects. If the social worker hadn't made the referral to services through Alta Regional Center, we wouldn't have received the Medicaid benefits she still has today and would have resulted in total financial disaster for us. The benefits she receives through Medicaid allows her to be at home with us (her family) because of nursing help and provides the medications and medical machines she needs to minimize hospital stays. She is now twelve years old. The sheer cold-heartedness coming from the majority of the republican congresspersons and senators to cut these services is disturbing. If my daughter didn't have Medicaid, she likely would not be alive today.

Sincerely,

Angelica McCaw

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95834

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 25, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Without government appointed medical my kids will not be able to receive the physicians care that they need when an emergency arises!!!

Sincerely,

Yolanda McCormick

Name

Hanford, Kings County

City or County

93230

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a friend who struggles daily with the an autistic son. The money, frustration, doctor bills, govt. bureaucracy, school district, special needs meetings, routines, and everything else that comes along with taking care of a child with an illness that is incurable, and largely uncontrollable, is a massive undertaking, a massive struggle. Taking away Medicaid and passing this ridiculous legislation means his special needs for schools and health insurance will disappear, and also cost her family thousands of dollars more per month. This doesn't work. It won't work. Society will stop working if we don't take care of taxpayers and their families. Please listen and act.

Sincerely,

Michael Scott McDonald

Name

Long Beach, Los Angeles County

City or County

90712

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 22 year-old son depends on Medicaid for all of his needs, including a nursing waiver that allowed me to bring him home after living in acute & sub-acute hospitals for five years. He suffered a brain injury that left him unable to do anything for himself, including sitting, holding his head up, moving his body, eating and all other daily care activities able bodied people take for granted. Since he's been home, he's become more calm. There have been no trips to an acute hospital, unlike when he lived in a sub-acute because it is cleaner & quieter at home. It is also cheaper to keep him at home - for the state - if that's your bottom line. As it is now, Medicaid (Medi-Cal in CA) does not make it easy for me to get his medications or care on a timely basis. Cutting Medicaid will make an already stressful situation worse and will affect his quality of life as it will further limit his DME supplies, medications and medical care. We both have already suffered through 6 years of unending stress due to his condition which was sudden, unexpected and directly the result of others. I implore you to consider, very carefully, any decision to cut Medicaid. Truly the negative consequences will be directly related to any decision to do so - for my son and for the millions of other people who rely on it.

Sincerely,

Delicia McFarland

Name

Midway City, Orange County

City or County

92655

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Having this service has helped our family, I could not keep a job because of the behavior issues my son has.

Having Regional Center and In Home Supportive Service's has helped me in so many ways . I have been able to go to seminars so that I can learn to help my son with his behavior problems and for me to understand what his needs are .

I can keep every doctor's appointment my son needs.

Also just to be there when he needs me to keep him stable in the home in the school environment and by keeping his routine helps him regulate so he feels calm and have less outbursts.

Regional Center has also help me find the school that my son attends, they have the stability then he needs in the school environment.

No one but a mother could understand what there child needs and to be there for there for them when they need them the most and have difficulties because of a physical or mental disability..I don't know where we would be right now if we didn't have thsee programs.

I do believe there are so many people out there living in the streets that have no help or have nobody to help them find these programs, these programs are available and if they take them away there will be more and more people left out and living in the streets with no help.

These are our children our sisters our brothers our mothers our grandparents friends are neighbors our husbands are our lives out there.

Sincerely,

Edna McGee

Name

Stsnton, Orange County

City or County

90680

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My youngest daughter has a developmental and psychiatric disability. She receives independent livings skills training and attends a day program. Both are paid for by Medicaid/Medical. Without those services she would no longer be able to live independently nor would she be able to function in our complex society. Medicaid/Medical pays for essential services for her. Please continue to fund these critical services.

Sincerely,

Joyce McNair

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95834

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I depend on Medicaid for my wheelchair and equipment so I can get around as independently as possible. Medicaid also pays for my doctors, medications, daily care through IHSS, and my regional center adult day program.

My name is Maria Mears. Because of Medicaid I am able to be active in my community. For instance, I was able help in the development in an accessible voting system. I've learned how to drive my wheelchair in the community. I've become an artist. I've improved writing and computing skills through a writing group. I've also been able to advocate for my needs and the needs of others.

Sincerely,

Maria Mears

Name

Culver City, Los Angeles County

City or County

90232

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter has bipolar disorder. Without the assistance of Medicaid she would not be able to afford her psychiatric medications. If she could not take her medications she undoubtedly would be unable to work, homeless, and probably abusing drugs and alcohol.

Sincerely,

Thomas Meisenhelder

Name

Huntington Beach, Orange County

City or County

92646

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter has a mental illness. Medicaid has allowed her to receive appropriate treatment and proper medication. Today, she is employed and living independently. Without Medicaid she would be abusing drugs, living in the street sick and hopeless. God bless Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Thomas Meisenhelder

Name

Huntington Beach, Orange County

City or County

90742

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



June 21 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DONT TAKE AWAY
MY MEDICAID. IT WILL MAKE GANNA TO
THE DR ~~FOR~~
HAND IF I GET SICK I WONT BE ABLE
TO GET BETTER

Sincerely,

Gabriel mena

Name

Tracy

City or County

95376

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our daughter Gloria, has an autoimmune condition called mitochondrial disorder. She was born with this condition which is life-threatening & disabling. Gloria is under the care of five specialty doctors & on several prescriptions in order to live a healthy, quality life. She is covered by medical Medicare and also receives respite care from Orange county regional center. She has a job coach who takes her to work and supervises her at Goodwill industries. This job gives her a sense of purpose, pays her a small amount and helps her socialize out in the community. If these services were to be cut, it would be devastating to our family and most importantly to Gloria !!!

Please fight for our daughter in keeping the current services available to her and our family.

Thank you for caring for & advocating on behalf of our disabled children. We appreciate you speaking out for us.

Sincerely,

Marge Menashe

Name

Costa Mesa, Orange County

City or County

92626

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 7:10 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: My Story

Good evening, I am Paola Mendez and I have a fifteen month old daughter, Olivia Herrera, who was born with down syndrome. My daughter and I are residents of Bell Gardens, California. We live in the county of Los Angeles. My daughter receives Medical, since we are a low income family. My daughter's health expenses have been covered through Medical. As of today Olivia is receiving early intervention and physical therapy through the South Los Angeles Regional Center. She is also seeing cardiologist, Dr. Richard Wittner. On July 26, 2016, Olivia had heart surgery due to the fact she had Patent Ductus Arterious. Since my boyfriend and I are considered low income, Medical covered Olivia's surgery and recuperation. My daughter's health depends on Medical and the Regional Center. My boyfriend and I are not financially stabled to cover my daughter's health expenses. If cuts or significant changes are made to Medical and the Regional Center, I am afraid my daughter would not be able to receive programs that not only help her health but are also helping her to reach her milestones and goals. Thank you for your time and consideration.



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to tell you my story. I am a hardworking mother of three children, ages 12, 4.5, and 2.5. The youngest two are Dylan and Giovanni. Both of my sons were diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the last ten months and life as my family knew it changed forever. I mentioned I work, I am a social worker and in that capacity I do not make enough to pay for the extensive medical, behavioral and developmental treatments that my children require. I rely on Medicaid, Regional Center and hopefully IHSS to keep my children safe, at home (not in a costly residential facility) and thriving. I already see the progress in each of them. Gio is non verbal who jumps of things, has a high pain tolerance, bites himself and others and bangs his head. Dylan has speech issues social problems and has difficulty interacting with his peers. Without the service providers that they each have in place, my two boys will regress on the progress made thus far and they will not have a fighting chance to be productive citizens as adults. Please I beg you to consider keeping Medicaid for families, all families including those with special needs.

Sincerely,

Gloria Mendoza

Name

El Cajon, San Diego County

City or County

92021

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



07/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

IT IS ABSOLUTELY PARAMOUNT THAT WE
CONTINUE THIS PROGRAM. SEVERAL OF THE
CONSUMERS I INSTRUCT WOULD SUFFER
CATASTROPHIC HEALTH PROBLEMS IF THIS PROGRAM
DID NOT EXIST.

Sincerely,

MENDOZA, MARK

Name

CONTRA COSTA

City or County

94806

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



July 25, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

To say the Medicaid cuts will greatly affect the special needs community is an understatement. At Serra Center we have been serving developmentally disabled adults for over 40 years. Currently, we have 88 clients. They are smart, funny, happy individuals that make our lives richer. They are thriving because they receive the support they need to live fulfilling lives. It is time Congress and others stop viewing developmentally disabled adults as burdens on our society, and time for them to see them like we see them- contributing members of our community. Many of our clients work, which means they pay taxes just like the rest of us for these services. We have several clients that have been employed by the same employer for 15+ years! Our clients are independent, parents, RCEB board members, students. Without these services, they will not receive the support and life skills training necessary to continue to live the life many of us take for granted.

Sincerely,

Jen Miller

Name

Union City, Alameda County

City or County

94587

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/18/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-Cal pays for my ILS Services, my day program, and my Kaiser medical care. Without those services, that would not be good for me.

Robin Miller as told to Joyce McNair, mother.

Sincerely,

Robin Miller

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95834

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

We need it! Please don't do that! Medi-Cal/Medicaid pays for my Kaiser health plan, my dental plan, and my day program.

(as dictated by Robin Miller to Joyce McNair)

Sincerely,

Robin Miller

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95834

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/14/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

My name Andrew Mitchell
I have a disability as
the seats he a I th I will
well see my friends
would be bad.

We rely on Medicaid for
health care and community
support.

Please pass along my regards
to the members of Congress
and the Senate
Thank you have a nice day

Sincerely,

Andrew Mitchell

Name

Lathrop

City or County

95830

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has severe Autand developmental delays. Medicaid provides health insurance for his condition. He also receives ABA therapy through Medicaid. Our sole income is provided in the IHSS services program which is also funded by Medicaid. We would be homeless without these programs. My son needs 24hour care which I am able to provide.

Sincerely,

Maisun Mized

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92602

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has Autism and several other medical diagnoses. Medi-Cal allows him to get necessary assistance at home as well as overall supervision and intervention needed to keep him safe. In addition, Medi-Cal has been helping to pay for my son's medication. I find it unconscionable that the government would take away from so many that don't have the ability to voice their concerns, or the means to walk away. To imagine all the damage that will be done, and lives lost because a reduction in funding of Medi-Cal is too painful. Medi-Cal helps allow my son, and others, to remain at home, rather than an institution. With cuts in Medi-Cal potentially not covering home or institutional settings, I question if the bean counters have made some of their calculations based on this population dying from lack of care. Of course, such words would never be voiced by politicians, rather exercised through action, cutting Medi-Cal. Those tax cuts to the wealthy and insurance companies do not benefit the most needy populations. There is no trickle down benefit. The majority of these individuals with Developmental Disabilities and other health issues will not be able to obtain significant employment. The rich get richer, the neediest will cease to exist.

Sincerely,

Deborah Molina

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92612

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son was diagnosed with autism many years ago. Things were very bad for my family at that time. Now I have utilized all of the resources that are funded through medicaid programs. My son is doing well, not great but well and I am so greatfull that these programs are available so that my son and family can continue to thrive.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Molina

Name

Colton, San Bernardino County

City or County

92324

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

3/16/17

If this pass then I have will to pay the whole price for all of medication and I can't pay that. I'm so afraid that I will have to go off of my medications, and I will be sick again and I want to get better.

Thank you,

Delfina Morales

Visalia, CA

Tulare County



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I'm comfortable where I live, at my group home. I'm happy there, and they have been helping a lot. If I had to move out, I might not be close enough to see my family.

Also, losing the money might mean I have to stay home and that would be boring. I like the day program where I'm at and what I do there. I get to exercise, volunteer in my neighborhood, and I'm learning how to save my money so that I can go camping.

If I don't have my health insurance, then I would get sick. I would be so mad. I take a lot of medicine and if I can't see my doctor I can get worse or sick. I also go to a special doctor to get my toenails cut. If my toenails never get cut, I won't be able to wear the shoes I want to wear and also it will look ugly.

I can't work and can't make enough money to pay for my own health insurance. If I have to do that, I won't have money to be able to shop and to buy my own food.

Right now, I'm lucky that I have people to help. I'm happy. Please don't cut this.

Sincerely,

Maricela Morales

Name

Rodeo, Contra Costa County

City or County

94547

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

WE ARE IN OUR LATE 60'S AND STILL CARING AND SUPPORTING OUR 35 YR OLD AUTISTIC SON WHO, STILL HAS LOW SELF HELP BASIC SKILLS AND REQUIRES 1:1 SUPERVISION AND ASSISTANCE: HE IS INVOLVED IN MANY LEARNING AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND HAS HAD THE SAME PERSONAL ASSISTANT FOR OVER 20 YRS PART OF THE COST OF WHICH COMES THROUGH MEDICAID FUNDING THROUGH OUR LOCAL COUNTY'S REGIONAL CENTER.;MEDICAID FUNDING CUTS WILL CAUSE HIM TO BE MORE ISOLATED, FRUSTRATED, DEPRESSED AND SOCIALLY DISENGAGED. TRUMP CAN FIND ANOTHER WAY TO BALANCE THE BUDGET RATHER THAN ABANDONING THE SICK AND DISABLED!

Sincerely,

JAC MORIN

Name

DANA POINT, Orange County

City or County

92624

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

We have 18 long term disabled individuals who are totally dependent upon the Medi Cal system in our residential homes and 65 more in our day program. These folks are experiencing substandard medical care because providers are refusing to take straight Medi Cal insurance due to the grossly inadequate rate of reimbursement! Few doctors will even take Medi Cal and the ones that do agree as a "community service". This drives the good doctors away from Medi Cal patients and many of our individuals have no resources to access services they need! If this system doesn't get fixed, our folks will be left without medical care they can access.

I recently had an individual who needed rehabilitation coming out of a hospital say for seizures. He could not access rehab because he did not have Medicare! I would remind the legislature that our society will be judged on how we treat our disabled, our elderly and children. Please fix this mess!

Sincerely,

Martha Morrissey, Executive Director &
parent of an adult with autism

Name

Lakeside, San Diego County

City or County

92040

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



June ~~8~~, June 20, 1977
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please do not cut funding for our
medi-cal. Our access to necessary
medical equipment and healthcare
services depend on it.

Sincerely,

Allondra G. Moore

Name

Mariposa, CA

City or County

95330

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



June 8, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is David Moshier. I live in Paradise, California. I am a person with a disability. I have dyslexia, a learning disability, I also have a developmental disability. I have Medi-Cal and Medi-care. Medi-cal helps me get the healthcare that I need, such as doctor visits, medicines, and my glasses. If I lost my health insurance it would be very hard. I would not be able to go to the doctor, I couldn't afford my medications. I would never be able to get new glasses. If I had to pay for all of these things myself, I couldn't pay rent or buy food. If I couldn't take my medicine, I could get very sick or die. I might end up homeless. I need Medi-Cal and Medi-Care to help keep me alive. Please do not cut Medi-Cal or Medi-Care!

Sincerely,
David Moshier

Name

Paradise, CA Butte County

City or County

95969

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6-18-17
Date

To whom it may concern,

If I Lose medicare or medical
It would impact me getting my meds
and Healthcare I need. I have
underlined Health Condition. I know
so many friends it would hurt to lose
it.

Sincerely,

Teresa Mosher

Name

Butte County

City or County

95969

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a caretaker for both my mom and my son who are disabled. We are adopted our son and depend on the promises that were presented to us at adoption from the state. Both my family members rely on services from Regional Center and from IHSS. If you want to consider changes merge CCS and CalOpitma as the broader field with CalOpitma is easier for families to acquire services needed. Get us more social workers to help facilitate the services with in the systems.

The services they provide allows us to continue to live as a family and function within our home. PLEASE, PLEASE consider the people who have no means like my mom and son to support themselves or benefit from tax breaks for buying insurance. We depend on this system to work. Make changes if need be but include everyone with those changes.

Sincerely,

Denise Mullins

Name

Huntington Beach, Orange County

City or County

92646

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Karen Mulvany [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 1:32 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid matters to our family

Our family lives in the small town of Lotus in rural El Dorado County. Ours is a close knit community, which though small, attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors who flock to the State Park where gold was discovered in 1849, and the whitewater river that flows through it. It's an ideal setting for several developmentally disabled people who live here.

Although she only operates at about a 2-3 year old level, our disabled adult daughter Lauren loves her community and her community loves her. Without Medicaid to fund the supported living services that enable her to live in her own home in this community, upon the death of her parents she would be institutionalized in some facility far from everything and everyone she knows and loves. This was the fate suffered by her great uncle, who was also disabled, and decades ago was institutionalized when his elderly mother grew too ill to care for him. Not long after being institutionalized, Lauren's great uncle died, largely because there were no community care options in the 1960s. Medicaid-funded Home and Community Based Services, and Medicaid-funded In Home Support Services, are the reason why Lauren need not suffer the same fate as her great uncle.

Medicaid also funded Adaptive Skills Training which enabled Lauren to learn how to function as independently as possible in everyday life. Not long ago, one of Lauren's former school aids, who had worked with her more than a decade ago, reconnected with Lauren and was amazed that she had been able to progress so far. Medicaid works. Medicaid is an investment in the infrastructure of people.

Karen Mulvany
[REDACTED]

Lotus, California 95651

El Dorado County

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Debra Muzikar [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:14 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: TELL YOUR STORY

My son Kevin is 22. Kevin is dually diagnosed with autism and mental health diagnosis. He is in a group home in El Cajon which is funded with Medicaid funds. Kevin has been on the HCBS medicaid waiver since he was 8 years old. Medicaid funds paid for his occupational therapy. Medicaid now pays for his medication, his doctors, his dentist. He is dependent upon Medicaid to live.

Kevin is in a program in his community of El Cajon where he volunteers at places like Salvation Army. Kevin has been a Regional Center client in California since he was two years. He is not going to lose his diagnosis.

I quit my job to be a caregiver many years ago. I am 59 years old now and am President of the Board for the Art of Autism nonprofit. The Arts are very important for people with developmental disabilities. I was never able to enter back into the workforce (I have a small retirement income and a part-time job). My husband and I are on the Affordable Care Act. We pay less than \$100 a month in premiums. My husband has a heart-problem. We are dependent on our insurance.

Debra Muzikar
[REDACTED]
Fallbrook, CA 92028
[REDACTED]

My son's name is Kevin Hosseini. He resides in a Home for Guiding Hands home in El Cajon, CA and is a client of San Diego Regional Center.

--
Debra Muzikar
[REDACTED]

Author "*The Art of Autism: Shifting Perceptions*" and "*The Art of Autism: Shattering Myths*"



6/19/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a 27 year old son high functioning son, Perry Nalupa who relies on Medicaid to fund his programs that help me live independently. The Regional center funds his day programs. Medi-cal provides health insurance and prescription coverage. Without these programs I may have to send him to the institution. Please keep funding this program for the sake of my son and countless other people. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ma. Evelyn Nalupa

Name

La Mirada, Los Angeles County

City or County

90638

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 23, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 9 year old daughter, Rayna, has moderate to severe Autism, Smith Lemli Opitz Syndrome, and Intellectual Disability. We rely on Medicaid to pay for her copays for all of her vital therapies which include: Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), Speech, and Occupational Therapy. Without Medicaid we would not be able to afford these crucial therapies that she needs to thrive and work towards independence. All persons with Special Needs deserve to be treated with dignity and be given the opportunities to be contributing members in our community. Gone are the days where children with disabilities are discarded, placed in Institutions and forgotten. We love our children and keep them safe in our homes and teach them the best we can. However, Rayna needs long term supports to assist her with learning life skills, social skills and work skills. Without Medicaid assisting with these programs, Rayna and persons like her will suffer. Our economy will suffer too with higher crime rates, abuse, and neglect. The measure of a society is found in how they treat their weakest and most helpless citizens. As Americans, we are blessed with circumstances that protect our human rights and our religious freedom, but for many people around the world, deprivation and persecution have become a way of life." ~James Earl "Jimmy" Carter, Jr. Please do not remove Medicaid for our society's most vulnerable!

Sincerely,

Nicole Neff

Name

Vacaville, Solano County

City or County

95687

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son was born with downs syndrome,has also had two open heart surgeries,epilepsy,and suffered a massive stroke two years ago stopping ALL blood flow to the entire right hand side of his brain.the stroke almost killed him,only 3% of people survive this kind of stroke and it was just a random fluke tear on the inside of his carotid artery that clotted itself shut and could not be opened up again.this more than all of his other medical struggles have made his medical care extensive and absolutely necessary to his survival.i am a single dad who could never have been able to provide the care he needs without his medicare.i qualify for full pay as an IHSS worker caring for him but haven't collected that bennafit to help us nor do I get welfare even though I would easily qualify unfortunately.i am a small business owner and can't imagine what I would do if the minimum help we received of assistance were stopped or even cut.i just juggle two full time jobs and end up saving all of us tax payers thousands every month by caring for him fully.i hope you know there are real cases out there that need assistance.i know it's probably impossible to understand these things unless you've had to live with these sorts of hardships.i hope this letter helps.

Sincerely,

Brian Nelson

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95818

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I work for an organization that serves adults with developmental disabilities. Every single one of our clients depends on Medicaid for their health and wellbeing. Without it, many of them would be sick or dying. With it, they are here living healthy, productive joyous lives!

Sincerely,

Katherine Newberry

Name

San Anselmo, Marin County

City or County

94957

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

If it wasn't for Medicaid, my son would be awarded to the state. I need Medicaid for Regional Center benefits to help me manage my son, who is severely disabled living with Autism. My husband and I are one of the highest taxed people living in California, so we pay a lot in taxes, but still struggle to maintain all of my son's needs. Without Medicaid we would have a hard time managing our severely disabled son who is a child. That would mean the state and federal aide would spend more money in opening state run facilities for these children and adults who could stay in their homes if they did not cut medicaid. This would end up costing the state and federal more than what they are spending now and this would be a huge detriment to families and disabled children/adults who most need it.

Sincerely,

Lori Newkirk

Name

ORANGE, Orange County

City or County

92705

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Without Medicaid my son will lose a lot of services that he needs. My son Logan is Autistic and has Cerebral Palsy. My husband and I rely on the help in order for our son to stay safe in his home. Without Medicaid we may have to look at putting him in a home. I hope you have a plan to open mental facilities and homes in order to house the many that will be in dire need. My husband and I pay 35% in taxes and we'll deserve the help. Please re-think the cuts that will hurt a lot of disabled people.

Sincerely,

Lori Newkirk

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92867

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

We are a complex family with complex needs. This home meets many of those in a very specific fashion. This home has three floors: the bottom floor is 100 percent disability accessible for wheelchairs and the accomodation of physical needs. We also have installed motion detectors, cameras, and door alarms, for the children that have complex trauma reactive behaviors and mental illness.

Donovan Meridieth: Age nineteen, adopted at age eleven, with current diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy, and Intermittent Explosive Disorder, sever allergies, and failure to thrive. His needs require one to one direction and life long support. His skills range from age 4 to 13, with a mean developmental age of 7-8 years of age. He is a California Alta Regional Center Client. Partial Conservatorship Process Pending.

Donna Newton: Myself, past employment as a critical care RN, currently primary caregiver and advocate to a family with complex needs. Medical diagnosis of Bipolar type I, Essential Tremors, and severe asthma.

Everett Meridieth: Adoptive Father and Emotional Father to all the children. Remains actively involved in parenting these children, Everett served in the Army and has residual Complex PTSD which makes it difficult to live within the family home. He has Bipolar disorder with atypical psychosis, and anxiety disorder, diabetis, hypertension, and moderate COPD and severe sleep apnea.

Maryjane Meridieth: Age 17, adopted at age 9, with current diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder, Borderline Personality, PTSD, Severe Reactive Attachment Disorder. Currently in residential placement and will need ongoing complex supports into adulthood. Maryjane was involved in sexual trafficking from the age of three to the age of five, by her biological family, this will require complex rehabilitation and

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



supports well into her adulthood. She will return home from residential placement, approximately in October of 2017.

Grace Long: Age 12 has PTSD, Moderate Reactive Attachment Disorder, Severe ADD/ADHD Impulsive Type, and Mood Disorder NOS, and moderate allergies with asthma. 2.5 years post adoption her adoptive family chose to no longer parent her due to her severe trauma reactive behaviors. She is now in guardianship with myself and will never return to this family..

Raeven Newton: Age 22, adopted at 16 months of age, with current diagnosis of Down Syndrome, legal blindness, Intermittent Explosive Disorder, and Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis requiring the use of a wheelchair. Raeven is a client of California Alta Regional Center and is developmentally in the 4-5 year old range and will require lifelong physical and emotional support. Full Conservatorship Pending in Court Process.

Mark Newton: Age 29, adopted at 6 years of age, with current diagnosis of Deaf, Blind, Cerebral Palsy, Severe Bronchiopulmonary Dysplasia, Nonverbal, Tracheal Malasia, Esophageal Dysplasia, Feeding Tube and formula dependent, and is considered medically fragile. When Mark is in a severe respiratory flair he requires a wheelchair. Mark is a client of California Alta Regional Center and will require lifelong physical and emotional support. Full Conservatorship with myself as appointed Conservator.

Frank Newton: My Father. He is in 74 years of age, his current diagnosis are Strokes x3, Myocardial Infarctions x2, and Esophageal Cancer in remission. He moved in after his wife of 42 years died and has been living within our home since April of 2016. He is in current good health and performs volunteer work with two separate agencies on a daily basis, and participates with three different bowling leagues a week.

The medical care for our family is complex and essential. Keeping in the best

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



health saves the system money. Without Medicaid the above individuals would need residential care to get their needs met. Residential care, without medical expenses, would cost 8,000 to 12,000 dollars a month without any of the medical interventions that insurance covers. Please do not reverse Obamacare, or the coverage or preexisting conditions. Allow us to live at home with dignity and thus saving the system a minimum of \$48,000 a month.

Sincerely,

Donna Newton

Name

Smartville, Yuba County

City or County

95977

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have five adopted children, four with special needs. I am opposed to the American HealthCare Act, as it would greatly effect my children's medical care and the services that they need on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

Renee Noflin

Name

Corona, Riverside County

City or County

92883

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medical is very important for my family. Actually it's a need. I have 3 kids, one of them has autism. He received a bunch of his health services through medical without cost. We couldn't afford this services, my son couldn't have the chance to be independent, integrated and a functional member of the society without this kind of services.

Sincerely,

Guadalupe Nolasco

Name

Bellflower, Los Angeles County

City or County

90706

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a son, 13 years old with autism. He depends of the services that Harbor Regional Center and medical provide for making his life with quality, opportunities and what he deserves in order to have opportunities like everyone else without disabilities.

Sincerely,

Guadalupe Nolasco

Name

Bellflower, Los Angeles County

City or County

90706

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

4/10/17

Dear Congressional Representative:

I am a counsel member on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities in California. I represent people with developmental disabilities. Many of these people I know personally. Some are my family members.

We are deeply concerned about losing our Medi-Cal funding in California. We rely on it for our basic and life saving health care needs. Without it, we would not be able to pay for basic health care. Many of us are fragile both physically and financially, and we fear for our health and well-being without Medi-Cal support.

My parents currently receive IHSS services through Medi-Cal. They would not be able to take care of themselves without it, and their health would decline rapidly. With IHSS, they are able to live fairly normal lives and can stay out of costly, overcrowded convalescent homes.

Please, there must be another way to save money and still protect the most needy and fragile individuals in our society.

Charles Nutt
Paradise, CA
Butte County

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:42 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Medicaid Matters

Our daughter Jess lives in a safe and secure residence with 5 other developmentally disabled adults. She works at Goodwill thru a special day program. Both her work and living program are supported by Medicaid. Please continue to support these programs that are necessary! Thank you!

Ilene O
Lake Forest
Orange County

From: Xini Oam [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:36 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: "What Medicaid Means to Me"

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am concerned with future cuts to the Medicaid program.

I know many people who have benefited from the In-Home Supportive Services program.

I have a family member who receives IHSS.

IHSS has helped:

- 1) him stay safe,
- 2) him remain in his own home,
- 3) him receive consistent meals,
- 4) him with a reduction of symptoms by reducing a variety of stressors,
- 5) him receive urgent medical care when he couldn't communicate problems,
and
- 6) he has had ZERO in-patient hospitalizations since becoming a recipient.

Essentially, IHSS has improved the quality of his life at a fraction of the cost of nursing home care. It has eliminated the expense of multiple hospitalizations per year.

One thing often overlooked when talking about IHSS is the stability it not only brings to the recipient, but to one's family and friends. With IHSS, a system has been put in place which eliminates confusion, frustration, guilt, and tension involved in coordinating care.

IHSS has also stopped the possibility of his child entering a cycle of poverty. Because an IHSS provider is available, the recipient's adult child has been able to enroll in college.

I appreciate the Medicaid program tremendously.

Sincerely,

Ksenia Sokolova, Los Angeles County



July 25, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My respite for my child has been a god sent. It has allowed me to go to school (college) one night a week I'm not in class worried about my son because he is being watched by a responsible person who I trust to care for him, while I'm trying to finish my degree. So I can better out future. The care provider who watches my son truly loves him and she takes very good care of him not to mention that she needs the income that she earns from doing respite care for my son. If this is taken away then I will have to drop out of school because I won't have anyone else to watch him.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Ochoa

Name

Tulare, Tulare County

City or County

93274

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My medicaid story is I have been Medicaid dependent since birth, and would not be able to afford all the medical needs and IHSS coverage that I currently receive. I was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at birth. Medical pays for my physical therapy, hospital coverage, mental health services, and medicine that I use to live independently in my home, with the help of IHSS. Without these services I would not be able to live independently and would be financially strapped because I live on SSI. I also receive subsidized housing that helps me live independently. I am unable to work a full time position but I am able to be an advocate for several organizations lending my voice for others, because of the services I receive from Medical on a daily basis.

Without Medical services I would not be able to have access to physical therapy or durable medical equipment that would make me live in a full time care home and not live independently which would be more expensive for everyone.

Sincerely,

Helen O'Connell

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95817

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

One of the hardest working, single moms nearest and dearest to my heart happens to have two beautiful children, one of whom is an amazing 7 year old boy with Autism named Vince. She sacrifices so much, works so hard and fights tirelessly to make sure her son's needs are tended to and sadly, she ends up on the losing end of the battle more often than she should be. But she leaps and tangles through all the red tape, deals with the rejection from insurances/regional centers for medication costs/developmental therapy but through all the sweat and heartache, she never gives up. She is one of the toughest, bravest people I know and I admire her more than anyone I know. I've wiped her tears and tried my best to give her moral support through a lot of these set backs and it breaks my heart to see all that she deals with when she's only trying to make sure any resources for the development and well being of her son are available to him. Medicaid may not be the end all/be all solution for everyone, but for children with disabilities, it absolutely is necessary for their development and long term costs. There are tens of thousands cases like Vince's who need Medicaid and are unfortunately short on alternative options. Please take that into consideration. Medicaid is not a political issue, it's for the sake of humanity. Without it, the lives of many people out there are at stake. Please have a heart. Warm regards, Erick Oliveros

Sincerely,

Erick Oliveros

Name

Rowland Heights, Los Angeles County

City or County

91748

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jamie. I am 38 years old and I have had Medicaid ever since I was 18. Medicaid has helped me in many ways. I am able to see all my doctors to take care of my health issues such as a my heart condition, my eye problems, my sleep apnea, and my brain issues.

I also depend on Medicaid to help me with my daily living issues so that can be as independent as possible.

Please do not make cuts because my health would not be as good and I would not be able have a quality of life just like other people.

Sincerely,

Jamie Onosaki

Name

Yorba Linda, Orange County

City or County

92886

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Hello. I have a wonderful, precious 15 year old son with severe developmental disabilities. He is also medically fragile. Please vote how to keep Medicare Medicaid and Medi-Cal in place. Our children deserve exceptional care. Without Medicaid our children will be drowned in the bureaucracy.

Sincerely,

Mary Orlando

Name

Oakhurst, Madera County

City or County

93644

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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wed 7-21-2017
June

Date

To whom it may concern,

I'M AM Looking For a Job For My
Self- and on so medication I need
this to be Healthy

Sincerely,

StocKton

Name

Antone Osano

City or County

~~St~~ 95330

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/17/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our daughter who has an inborn error of B-12 metabolism and cognitive and development disability and is as well legally blind. She is with wonderfully positive spirited individual who has a job and contributes to society. She relies on a small amount of funds and health care provided through Medicare to pay for her ground living facilities as her job provides a very minimal below minimum wage level of pay due to her cognitive disability.

Any reduction in the amount she receives for her needs will result in her being unable to make ends meet.

Please continue the funding for honest hard working contributing Americans who live at the far extreme of the wealth perspective from the top fractional %.

Sincerely,

Dan Osran

Name

Lake Forest, Orange County

City or County

92630

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

Our son recently was granted funding for an assistant and it has made a huge difference in his life since then. We sincerely hope that his funding will not be cut, which would have a detrimental impact on his progress.

Sincerely,

Alan & Barbara Otto

Name

Sacramento

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



4/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I'm a single mom age 60 taking care of my 24 year old adult son who has non verbal autism, behavioral & sensory issues, and an auditory processing delay which means he's not able to fit into any programs without direct support from me. I am his IHSS provider, his voice & lifeline to this world. I have set up a day program inside my home which includes his ABA therapists and a personal assistant which all are funded by MediCal. Without this funding, there would be no place for my son and the money I make under IHSS would put me and him out on the street. I take my job very serious and I'm the best person to ensure that my son's needs are always taken care of. Without the funding support to do my job you would be creating 2 more indigent individuals who currently are very active and very productive. Please reconsider all the ramifications of how Medicaid allows my son and I to live as independently as we can. Your decision to eliminate the funding for programs that allow us to live with dignity is in your hands. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Danette Otto

Name

Anaheim, Orange County

City or County

92802

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son needs to have the care giving services he received through IHSS. Without this service, he would not be able to live with the assistance he needs.

Sincerely,

Alma Pacheco

Name

Monterey Park, Los Angeles County

City or County

90640

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

With out Medi-cal my family would be in serious jeopardy. Not only do I have chronic health issues that are consistently managed via health services. I have vision issues that although the services for correction (via specialized contacts) are not covered. I do have exams to ensure my eye health is stable.

I could leave a long list of other issues but the most impact for me is vision and managing Psoriasis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Diabetes, Hypertension and Thyroid issues. All are managed and followed up with my physician.

If Medi-cal services were reduced it would also impact my children who are both Autistic. I am also the IHHS provider for one of my children. We have a limited amount of respite hours through our Regional Center. Regional Center has also provided support for IEP preparation and attended with me for support as well. Psychiatric and dietary services are also available that are provided by people who are experienced with Autistic youth and their needs.

One of my biggest fears is losing or cutbacks that reduce services. My family is finally becoming stable after my husband, their father died. With out the support services life would be far more difficult than it is.

Thank you for considering the impact and giving our family a voice in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cheri Padilla

Name

American Canyon, Napa County

City or County

94503

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6-20-17
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DON'T CUT ARE MED-CAL
WE NEED YOUR HELP

Sincerely,

P A M

Name

MIANTICA - SAN JUAQUIN CO.

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son relies on Medicaid for all his health needs. He was born with a rare brain disorder which makes him unable to talk, walk, eat without supports. The regional center provides services like Aba respite and allows my son to be home in a safe and secure environment. Medical provides his diapering needs and all his self care needs. Without it, his quality of life would significantly be diminished. It's important to remember that young children need this help. Please consider their voices and know that we survive through these services. Do not repeal or allow cuts to these important programs through medicaid.

Sincerely,

Christine Pangelinan

Name

Ontario, San Bernardino County

City or County

92764

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, Malik was diagnosed with autism when he was two and a half. He was not talking or interacting with others. We were so worried about him, we didn't know what will happen to our little boy. Is he going to improve is speech and social skills? Is he going to live a normal life? Malik started speech therapy because even if he has made progress, he is still behind on his speech. He is supposed to have 2 sessions a week but we cannot afford the copay so Malik goes only once a week. He also needs ABA therapy but since it is not covered by our insurance so he doesn't do ABA therapy. In January I joined the Regional center and they were able to help with the speech therapy copay and the ABA therapy. Thanks to Medicaid, Malik is getting the help he needs in order to improve and hopefully become a functioning member of society. Thanks to medicaid and the Regional Center Malik is not on his own anymore. Medicaid is vital for the disabled and making cuts would be a disaster for this country. There are millions of disabled children and adults who depend on medicaid; and making cuts to would increase the future cost of healthcare because all these children who need an early intervention would not get the help they need and would ultimately need more care in the future.

You cannot make America great again by giving up on people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Leila Parker

Name

Orange CA, Orange County

City or County

92865

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the mother of a special needs adult son. He is currently on my medical insurance, however, when I retire he will lose the coverage. I very concerned on what will happen to my son once I retire.

Sincerely,

Nancy Parque

Name

Janesville, Lassen County

City or County

96114

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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May 4, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a young individual who has Autism Spectrum Disorder - severe. I am a citizen of this great country and am born to US citizens.

I was diagnosed before the age of 2. Inland Regional Center finally accepted my diagnosis at age 3 and started providing some services by age 4 and half. I am hoping the window of opportunity to repeal and replace "Autism" care is not over for me, so please do not ignore me.

I live in the house with my neutral family beyond who I have no other relatives. If you take away the Medicaid, without supports and services from Inland Regional Center and In-Home Supportive Services, I may be forced to live in group-home - basically placements that will take away my dignity and the quality of life I have now.

I may be Autistic but I am every bit an individual, a human being and if you believe in your God, created by the same God in the same spirit that God created you. Do not take away my lifeline and have blood on your hands for the rest of your life in your conscious.

If you have children then you know that I am a child who deserves to live with his family and I do not deserve my quality of life be taken away while making me a burden on my community and the society at large.

I trust you will vote with your heart and not your purse.

Thank you.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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Sincerely,

Som Pawooskar

Name

Redlands, San Bernardino County

City or County

92373

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Rebecca Peery and I have two kids with Disabilities that depend on Medicaid. One is on the Autism Spectrum and other has Lissencephaly (smooth brain) and is fully depended on us for all of her daily care. Because of Medi-caid my daughter does not have to be institutionalized and my Husband is able to stay home and care for our daughter through IHSS. Medi-caid is my children's only insurance without it we would probably be homeless as prices of insurance would be to high. My daughters formula that she is fed though a GJ-Tube cost more for 1 month then I make, that is not including any of her other medical supplies that are needed to keep her alive. Please think of the people these cuts will be effecting. Thank you

Sincerely,

Rebecca Peery

Name

Whittier, Los Angeles County

City or County

90604

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have two children one with Autism and one with Lissencephaly which is fully dependent on us her parents. Medi-cal is there primary and only insurance, without it we would be homeless as my daughter is Tube fed and her Formula alone costs more than I make, not to mention any of her other medical supplies. Cuts to Medicaid would deeply affect our family and thousands like us. Medicaid also funds IHSS which allows my husband to stay home and care for our daughter. Please do make any cuts to these programs as this is how we are able to survive and care for our children.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Peery

Name

Whittier, Los Angeles County

City or County

90604

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/16/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son Johnathon suffered a severe traumatic brain injury in 2005. Because of the IHSS program in California I his mom have been able to be by my sons side as his full time caregiver. He has received quality attention and therapies because of this program. And I being a single mom have been ever so grateful for the Medicaid program which has allowed me to take part in bringing him back from a very deep coma. I have recently been told by an orthopedic doctor that they are surprised at the level of recovery my son has accomplished. To support my son in being a more active and contributing citizen in our state has been my goal, and the Medicaid program has allowed me to spend this quality time with him so he can be more independent and hopefully one day function completely on his own. PLEASE take a stand and support keeping Medicaid funding. Thank-you!

Sincerely,

Lucia Pennino

Name

Grass Valley, Nevada County

City or County

95945

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/15/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My child is more independent in the community because I receive funding from regional center to pay for Learning Center thru Community Gatepath and personal assistant and In Home Support (IHSS) services. The funds for these services are made available through Medicaid. It's VERY important Medicaid remains in place to assure the funding and the services and my child's independence can continue.

Many adults with Cerybral Palsey need assistance for everything, and needed 24/7 care too.

Thank you for your consideration to keep All Services for children,the Aging and young adults with disabilities!

Sincerely,

Rosa Perez

Name

Burlingame, San Mateo County

City or County

94010

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 21, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My second of three adult daughters is a 40 year-old who was born missing a tiny bit of protein on her 8th chromosome. Its absence resulted in three medical conditions: congenital heart problems, developmental disabilities, and psychiatric challenges. In her case, the psychiatric challenge manifests as anxiety disorder for which she takes a prescription drug to ameliorate the effects. Medicaid covers her medications fully and has enabled her to get covered dental care this year. For the past approximately five years, we, her parents, have paid out of pocket for her semi-annual cleaning and check-up. The bills for X-rays and such routine care have run over \$100 each time.

My daughter receives SSI and Regional Center of the East Bay Services because of her disability and therefore Medicaid. In addition to her medicine and dental care, she receives employment training and support in the form of coaching and job development. She is currently working 4-5 days a week in supported employment. Her medication is essential, allowing her to work daily, following directions and learning new skills. She earns a minimum wage and feels very proud to be a contributing member of her community.

Medicaid services are so important to our daughter and to us. If the State of CA must shoulder the financial burden alone to provide essential services, it will be forced to reduce the numbers served and the benefits offered. Please support this vital program for my daughter and others like her.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Pamela Perls

Name

Lafayette, Contra Costa County

City or County

94529

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

dear sentors if you take away medicare I will have to pay out pocket to see my doctors and my parents will also . I can't offord to pay out pocket to see my doctors from renee perls

Sincerely,

Renee Perls

Name

Oakland, Alameda County

City or County

94577

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I rely on Medicaid for IHSS.

Sincerely,

S. Peterson

Name

Crescent City, Del Norte County

City or County

95531

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6-20-17

Date

To whom it may concern,

YOU DO NOT CONCERN DENA I WANT TO
THE CAPITAL TO PROTEST FOR RIGHTS
DO NOT CUT PROGRAMS, ~~DO NOT~~ SO PLEASE DO NOT
CUT PROGRAMS WANT TO OPERATE THE
PROGRAMS HEALTH
PLEASE DO NOT CUT ARE PROGRAMS
AND DO NOT TAKE ARE MEDICAL

Sincerely,

Dena Pfeiffer

Name

Lodi - SAN JUAN

City or County

95240

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our 17 year old son has autism and depends greatly on Medicaid from healthcare need to in home support services. These services keep him healthy. Being able to live in his own home gives him the opportunity to learn independent skills. He also needs mental health services and medication to cope with the different struggles that autism presents. Without or with reduced funding from Medicaid, it will close the door to any possible chance for him to have a life as his peers. There will be no future, no hope. Individuals with disabilities deserves a chance to have a meaningful life.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Pham

Name

San Gabriel, Los Angeles County

City or County

91776

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My brother was born by way of a vaginal, breech birth, not feet first, but butt first, so essentially he was born folded in half, as it happened he had severe cerebral palsy, my mother was a widow at the age of 27 and spent her life taking care of him, working to help him walk, massaging his muscles, trying braces and crutches, eventually all was gone and he was confined to an electric wheelchair since he lost all use of arms and legs, the only thing he could use was a thumb to control the wheelchair; the past few months he was unable to do this, well he passed away July 18, 2017, age 62, no more suffering, yay! Anyway my point is that if medicare would make more services available people could do more. As it stands now we are facing a \$10,000.00 burial expense, medicare should make it where we are able to bury our loved ones, not have to face more stress by not having no money. his mother worked many jobs to provide, but there was never enough, these type of people need more help, (there was no money in the budget for insurance costs, therefore no insurance). Bottom line is these people need medicaid so their family can continue to care for them and not institutionalize them as this would be even more costly to the already overburdened state. People do not choose to be born this way, but families choose to care for them instead of letting a stranger do it.

Sincerely,

Diana Phillips

Name

Blythe, Riverside County

City or County

92225

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My Medicaid story is a life-changer. I had behavioral issues ever since I was born, but I never confirmed my autism diagnosis until I was twenty years old. During the dark times in which I was unsure about my own identity, life was extremely difficult for me. I had trouble making friends during my childhood school days, and high school was four of the worst years of my life. I felt isolated because I could not understand myself nor the social expectations of my peers and educators. I also went to a UC school without knowing that I had autism, and I had to leave for personal reasons.

After I returned to my original home in Alhambra, and started receiving Medicaid, my life changed for the better. I received positive therapy from my Regional Center, and my therapists helped me graduate from college with a Bachelor of Arts in English. During my studies at a community college, I earned excellent grades, acquired my first job, and graduated in the top five percent of 2013. I then transferred to the nearest four-year school from my house, and also got published again right before earning my BA. Medicaid helped me become a college graduate. Thank you for letting me write my story about the positive impact Medicaid had on my extraordinary ordinary life!

Sincerely,

Alex Phuong

Name

Alhambra, Los Angeles County

City or County

91801

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6-21-2014

Date

To whom it may concern,

I like coming to My day program,
I like being able to learn and be
with My Friends Aside From going to
Program I also go to the dentist
and doctors Regularly, Without My
Benefits I wouldnt be able to ~~learn~~
learn and be healthy,

Sincerely,

Karina Plascencia^u

Name

MonTECA CA.

City or County

95334

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Alison Portner [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:59 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid matters to me

One of the reasons why Medi-cal and Medicaid means so much to me is because I use it to help me pay for my Levethroid medication, my doctors appts. and dentist appts. If I didn't have these two services any more, I would have to pay for all my medical services out of pocket. If I had to pay a lot of money on medical care, it would mean I wouldn't be able to live in my own apt. any more. If I'm sick, I wouldn't be able to have these services any more because I wouldn't be able to pay for it any more. Also I really like my doctor and gynecologist. If I didn't have these services, I wouldn't be able to see the people I'm comfortable with. I also like my dentist because he is a member of my temple.

The other reason Medicaid means so much in my life is because I'm a client of San Diego Regional Center. Two of the services I have through SDRC are my job and Independent Living Services. Medicaid helps pay for these services. So if it goes away, SDRC won't have enough money to pay for these services. I love my job and I love independently. so these two things would definitely have a big impact on me.

Thanks So Much for reading my story

Alison Portner

UCP Ready Stamps



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our son is 16 years old and Autistic, non verbal. He needs help 24 by 7.
We cannot imagine living without the help and support we are getting from the
County.

Sincerely,

Muhammad Qamar

Name

Lake Forest, Orange County

City or County

92609

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son was diagnosed with Autism and ADHD in spring of 2012. He is high functioning, and would appear like any normal 7 year old little boy. However he suffers from pervasive delays and sever anxiety. Without his Medication for ADHD his behaviors are severely erratic and combative toward himself and others. He requires constant one on one supervision, there have been several scary situations where his life has been put in immediate danger, like running in the street in on coming traffic, or trying to open the back door of his school bus. Without Regional Center services, I fear what would happen. For a child his age, there aren't closed day care options (he is 7) and several day camps and after school programs cannot take him because they do not have professionally trained staff to work with him or give him the attention he needs. Without Medicaid coverage I could not afford his medication which after my Insurance coverage is \$350.00 a month. Medicaid and the Los Angeles Regional Center help my family thrive. Without this assistance I would not be able to work...and we would be homeless.

We are praying for a positive outcome to all of this.

Sincerely,

Deja Quinonez

Name

Whittier, Los Angeles County

City or County

90606

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/28/2017

Date

Dear Congressperson:

I am writing to you today regarding the upcoming proposed cut to Medicaid spending. There are many Americans whose mere existence depends on the funds currently available to families living with catastrophic diseases. I'd like to tell you about one of those families.

My friend Anthony and his wife Lisa are recipients of Medicaid, Medi-Cal, and In-Home Support Services for their daughter Jessica. Jessica is living with a horrific neuro-degenerative disease called Neimann-Pick Type C. This disease has robbed Jessica of her abilities to eat, walk, talk, and take care of herself. She suffers from seizures, and is prone to pulmonary issues.

The government funds that assist Anthony's family, and the In-Home assistance that has been made available to them allows both Anthony and Lisa to continue to hold down jobs so that they may maintain their own and Jessica's healthcare plans, as well as pay their mortgage and other household expenses. But primarily, these government benefits allow them to be available to spend quality time with their precious daughter and to be a family; without the devastating effects of exhaustion by being Jessica's primary caregivers.

Jessica's light is able to shine because she is well taken care of and given love by her family.

The loss of any of the services which Jessica currently receives would be devastating to her family and dangerous to Jessica's well-being.

PLEASE vote AGAINST any cuts to these services that Jessica and others receive. Doing so would assure that those who benefit from these services can continue to thrive, and that their families may continue to be strong so that they may have the

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



energy to fight the fight for their loved one's lives.

Sincerely,

Kelly Raffety

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90065

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has developmental disabilities and is a client of Regional Center, using their services. He will need IHSS, medicare. medical to meet his needs for his long term care and support. It is very important that we have these funds to meet his needs in long term.

Sincerely,

Malarmagal Rajasekaran

Name

Cupertino, Santa Clara County

City or County

94024

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Chris Raley. I am an honorably discharged, disabled USAF veteran and the father of a child with special needs. I am a licensed and fully qualified aircraft mechanic. I hold two teaching credentials. My earning potential is well into 6 figures. However, I am a stay at home dad to my son.

He has severe autism and epilepsy. He receives IHSS, which is funded through medicaid. That IHSS income allows me to take care of my son and keeps our family afloat financially. It allows the one person who can best care for him, me, to do so. He requires 24/7 protective supervision and someone who can drop everything to help him. That's what I do for him, thanks to IHSS and Medicaid.

Please do not let my family fall into financial ruin simply because we have a child with severe disabilities. Please do not cut medicaid.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raley

Name

Fresno, Fresno County

City or County

93650

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

June 25, 2017

Dear Congressperson Waters,

My daughter Eden is 21 and (in the picture below) is smiling at the future because she got nurtured early in life through the early start program -- learning to talk, walk, coordinate her fine motor muscles so she could write. Also our family got connected with other families even when she was an infant through our intervention center and Family Resource Center, and because of that several of us ended up serving together in leadership of a Down syndrome parent group, which grew from an organization meeting in different families' living rooms to a nationally-recognized, award-winning non-profit changing the lives of individuals and families affected by Down syndrome: the Down Syndrome Association of Orange County.

Thank you Medicaid!

I am smiling because through Medicaid, my daughter and I have received Regional Center training funds through the years to learn about Lindamood-Bell math strategies, specific best practices to enrich and enhance my daughter's learning abilities by creating a nurturing home environment, or appealing to her visual learning strengths, or to gain communication skills by scaffolding her with total communication. Through parent training funds our family has learned about trends in legislation affecting our daughter, ways to effectively advocate and plan for her future, and network with professionals and experts from around the world. As a result I have been able to mentor other families locally and create online groups (for example The 21st Blessing) to disseminate information and support families from across the U.S.

Thank you Medicaid!

When my husband was struggling at work and our children and I needed to find insurance because we weren't going to be covered, Medicaid Waiver enabled my daughter to have health insurance at a critical time in her development.

Thank you Medicaid!

Now that my daughter will be finishing adult transition this coming year, she is dreaming of becoming more independent and finding work. However she will need support in finding and keeping a job, as well as growth in independent living skills to enable her to become productive and successful. I hope that services will still be available when she needs to grow on in life even in the future when my husband and I are no longer available.

Thank you Medicaid -- I hope!

Blessings,

Linda Chan Rapp


Lomita, CA 90717





4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I care for my 23 year old daughter whose has a rare genetic disease that causes tumors to grow on all major organs. She also has autism, tourettes, and sever behavioral issues. She relays on medicaid to help her get the quality health care that is needed for her to function. She is my life and I don't want her to lose her medical care if medicaid is cut. Please reconsider your plan to make cuts to medicaid and to keep my daughter thriving.

Sincerely,

Angela Rathbun

Name

Gridley, Butte County

City or County

95948

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My grandson Joseph has sickle cell disease, he had a stroke before he was a year old. He is now on chronic blood transfusions and takes a drug for the sickle cell as well as one to prevent iron overload from the constant blood transfusions. His treatment without the help of California Childrens Services would cost several thousand dollars a month. Without Medicare and Medi-Cal the family would be destitute even though both parents have professional jobs. Why can't we do health care like most of the developed countries in the world? This constant battle over the health care for our most fragile citizens makes no sense.

Sincerely,

Nancy Rene

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90025

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/30/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Why Medicaid matters to me...

I am a single mother of three living in California and I'd like to tell you why Medicaid matters to me. One of my kids has autism and receives intensive ABA therapy that would be so expensive without his Medi-Cal health insurance to cover the costs. This therapy is his lifeline since he is also home-schooled and needs the one on one instruction provided in order to thrive. I had to quit working when my son was three years old since he needs 5 different therapies which are all shaping him into a functional member of society. The IHSS (In Home Support Services) program which I understand is also funded by Medicaid, has made it possible for me to be there for him and see that he gets all these therapies. Without IHSS he would need to be placed in a home since I wouldn't be able to support my family without a regular job.

My oldest son has Crohn's disease needs very expensive IV Treatment medicine every month in order to combat the disease and allow him to live a semblance of a normal life. He is going to College and doing well thanks to the health insurance coverage he currently has. He didn't ask to have this disease and it is a lifelong condition so I am very concerned about what would happen if he couldn't get his treatments.

Lastly two of my three children have hearing loss and they benefit greatly from the use of their hearing aids. In case you don't know, hearing aids cost around \$3K and need to be replaced every five years. The Medi-Cal insurance has provided these for my kids since regular insurance will not cover hearing aid expenses.

So in conclusion, the Medicaid program is very important to my family since they all have special needs which I could not afford myself as a single stay at home mother of three. Truthfully I loved working and gave up my career once my son

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



was diagnosed with autism since his needs are more important. I am grateful every day that we have wonderful health coverage and the IHSS program. I would hate to lose it.

Sincerely,

Tara Rhetta

Name

Roseville, Placer County

City or County

95747

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter sarah has been handicap since birth. Without IHSS support I would have to place her in a care facility. She has behaviors, needs 24 hour care, cannot walk without assistance. IHSS helps me to hire caregivers so that she can stay in our home.

PLEASE DO NOT CUT IHSS!! There are thousands of stories like mine out there!!!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Rodad

Name

Aliso Viejo, Orange County

City or County

92656

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son receives ABA therapy through Regional center. Thanks to his ABA therapy my son with Down syndrome is starting to behave like a normal child. He doesn't run into traffic anymore and stays right by my side when we are in public. He feeds himself and I no longer worry about him being in danger. We no longer need IHSS because my son is thriving with ABA services. Please I beg you don't take my sons ABA funding away.

Sincerely,

Anna Rodriguez

Name

Fountain Valley, Orange County

City or County

92708

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Erika , I have 2 kids both of them Autistic 5, and 11 years old and I can believe how medical save the life of my children, I can not imagine with out medical because this program is very important in my life of my kids and other families with special disabilities I just pray a lot for have this special opportunity to have medical for my family and thanks of the people who make this possible and help a lot families like me, please families with low income we need opportunies to have programs like this, we Cannot not pay a private insurance is expensive families with children with disabilities and low income we need programs like Medical and I hope this program can continue my kids and their life depends a lot of this program please keep this Amazing benefit for all families what we Cannot pay all expensive insurance I believe you can understand the needs of families with special disabilities and take the time for read my letter this is a mom Of two children what the only thing can I said is THANK YOU!!

Sincerely,

Erika Rodriguez

Name

Palmdale, Los Angeles County

City or County

93551

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Ola a quien corresponda yo Guadalupe Rodrigues tengo un hijo con retraso mental tiene autismo y migrosefalia para mi de echo ya es un problema el medical desde que ya no puede hir a cualquier doctor con el madical ay probles que para una cita dura sus cemanas para que te den cita y tambien mi hijo nesecita frenos para su dentadura porque la quijada esta asi adelante y le afecta para comer y tanpoco cubre eso de antemano es un probleama y si lo quitan nos ba a perjudicar mucho mas por fabor piensen y tomen consciencia de ninos y adultos espexiales

Sincerely,

Guadalupe Rodriguez

Name

Inglewood, Alameda County

City or County

90301

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/17/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

MY LIFE WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IF I WOULD HAVE NOT HAD STATE MEDICAID. Medicaid supported me with "in home supported services", many doctors to help me with my autism, body illnesses, AB3634 in school, psychosis episodes, and hospitalizations. Without State Medicaid, I would have been institutionalized since age three.

At age 3, I child was diagnosed with autism. Doctors had told my mother that I belonged "locked up", hospitalized. They told her I had no hope to speak or ever improve as my autism was severe. She had firm faith that I would be normal one day and thanks to Medi-cal she was given the ability to place me in programs paid by Medicaid for speech therapy, and so on. At age 7, I said "mom" for the first time. When I grew older to be ten years old, I had gradually become brain functional and started to speak in sentences. When I reached, junior high school, I had been under medical care enough that my improvement allowed me to mainstream onto classes with normal students my age. From placement home to placement home; from doctor to specialists, from psychiatrist to mental health hospitals, and upon improvement, from home to home with the help of in home supportive services, a program paid by State Medicaid, I was given an opportunity for a life. I would not be here writing this today, or have become who I am without Medicaid. When I was born, I was hospitalized for two weeks for being born with Pneumonia, Jaundice, and other issues. My mother was a 17 year old kid and single mom. She would not have been able to afford doctors or medicine for me. State Medicaid brought me to health.

In elementary school, I entered an art contest called "Mom and Me" and won. When I was seventeen years old, I was in the wrestling for junior varsity team and won two gold medals. When I graduated from high school, I was awarded a \$1000 scholarship and graduated with honors. After, I majored in criminal justice

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



forensics while attending ITT Tech. I Obtained an AA degree and graduated with honors as class Valedictorian, and given membership to Alpha Beta Kappa Gama.

My mother and I went through many struggles with my health, autistic behaviors, and many ER visits. In 2010, life circumstances required I move and began attending California Baptist University (CBU), Riverside. I was sad to discover that none of the ITT-Tech credits were considered for transfer because they weren't accredited by the main accreditation association, WASC. This created a financial burden for obtaining the required General Education transfer credits.

From then to now, I've been led to complete my general education courses at an accredited college. I graduated June 2017 with another AA degree and this one, in Anthropology. During which time, I began volunteering for the State Council for Developmental Disabilities in 2012. It's a legislative organization that advocates, providing rights for people with developmental disabilities. I've assisted in making laws that currently make a difference in thousands of lives. IT WOULD BE GREAT if, with my education, I could get a job but all the interviews I go to, they notice my autism when I speak.... It's noticeable. (I don't get hired). It makes me feel as if my efforts are useless, and my frustration (psychosis) takes the better part of me. Thanks to my psychiatrist and the medications, I pick myself up again and look to see the light at the end of the tunnel. My mother and I have always been alone, and to date, she works very hard to make ends meet. This is why she pushes me to get an education: for a better future. A developmentally disabled person like me will not easily be hired or taken seriously unless I prove myself, with at least, a bachelor's degree.

I will "not stop" fighting for a better future. However, I will need for State Medicaid "not to stop" either. It has been a life changing benefit for me and it makes a huge difference in people's lives. Without it, many of us would have never seen the sun and lived eternally in institutions. Please respect the laws that created State Medicaid for low income individuals, and see to it that it continues for the better America we seek.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Christopher Rogel

Name

Mentone, San Bernardino County

City or County

92359

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter, Dylan, has Down Syndrome. She has an older brother and a younger sister who do not have Down Syndrome or any other challenges to achieving their personal best. As long as they work hard, they have the opportunity to achieve life goals such as independence, meaningful employment, enriching social relationships, and opportunities to contribute to their community. For Dylan, who has intellectual disability, many doors of opportunity taken for granted by her brother and sister are closed to her. Without robust support from Medicaid, the program that Dylan attends, One Step Beyond Disability Services, would not exist. Currently, Dylan attends One Step Beyond everyday where she communicates and relates with peers, volunteers at various community service organization to learn employable job skills, prepare for community employment, and practices independent life skills such as cooking, money management, and safe community behaviors. She also has opportunities to exercise and take classes at the local YMCA, community center, and community college. Without One Step Beyond, supported by the local regional center and CA DDS through Medicaid funding, Dylan would be denied the opportunity to contribute to her community and access all of the resources of her community. It would be a lonely, unfulfilled life. Dylan and others like her who have Intellectual Disability deserve what all of us without this challenge consider a right and take for granted. Please work to safeguard this funding for this vulnerable and deserving population of United States citizens.

Sincerely,

Mimi Rogers

Name

Belmont, San Mateo County

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



City or County

94002

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I finished high school this year. This summer I started the transition program, where an adult comes to my house to keep me company when my parents are at work and school. They work with me on social skills and show me how to do things I can do to take care of myself. The program is called IHSS for In House Support Services. Medicaid pays for a part of IHSS. I have Medicaid for my medical care. Without IHSS my mom would not be able to have a full time job. Or my dad might have to stop going to school. I need Medicaid for IHSS and medical care. My parents helped me write this letter.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Roll

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92606

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 18-year old daughter has Down syndrome and very limited food tolerance. She has Medicaid and In Home Support Services.

I have a traumatic brain injury and am on Medicare. For the past 3 years I have been in an intensive rehabilitation/therapy program 3 days/week. After years of working toward it I am going to reenter the work force part time. My wife works incredibly hard to support all of us.

Without IHSS I would need to end my rehab/therapy and my parttime work to stay home with my daughter full time. Neither of us want that and neither would be able to tolerate it for long. It would eliminate progress our daughter has made toward greater independence and doing things by herself. It would probably lead to my wife losing her job as it has in the past because she would need to spend so much time taking care of our daughter.

Sincerely,

Howard Roll

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92606

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Date June 20 2017

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DO NOT
TAKE AWAY OUR
MEDS - OAK. WE NEED
IT TO SURVIVE

Sincerely,

Laura

Name

MONTANA

City or County

95338

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son Thomas suffers from Autism Spectrum Disorder, general anxiety, and has a severe speech and language impairment. He currently is on Medicaid and is a San Andreas Regional Center consumer. He requires specialized services provided through Medicaid to help him with very basic functional skills, like communicating, self advocacy, In-Home Support Services, independent living skills, speech therapy and applied behavior analysis therapy to help him with his behavior and communication struggles due to his disability. If he loses Medicaid he will also be losing these valuable services which are helping him become a functional member of the community. Without these services my son would completely regress. People with developmental disabilities require all of the supportive services available to them in order to live functional lives. Please do not cutt off funding of Medicaid as my son is not able care for his personal needs/independent living or find a job on his own, and my income is very limited. He would lose all of his services. I hope that Congress won't turn their backs on the developmentally disabled community which already struggles just to be accepted in our society. If you take away the funding that covers essential training and programs medically needed in order for them to be functional adults, you're basically taking away their very basic rights to get the help they need to survive as functional members in the community. They will most likely end up homeless or worse, they are very easy targets for phycial and sexual abuse and exploitation which can lead to their death.

I hope you will take my concerns into consideration and decide to continue to provide funding of Medicaid for the developmentally disabled and any other needing member of the community who cannot fend for themselves and require a great deal of support services provided by Medicaid.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Johanna Rossner

Name

San Jose, Santa Clara County

City or County

94088

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 25, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I work at Redwood Coast Regional Center (RCRC) as the Team Leader/Senior Service Coordinator for the office in Lake County, CA. RCRC is one of 21 Regional Centers operating in the state of California, funded in part by the Home and Community Based Services Waiver, or Medicaid Waiver for short. We are also partially funded through the CA State budget, as our services are provided under the regulations set forth by the Lanterman Act. Regional Centers exist to meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities. We serve infants through adults and our services are voluntary for the clients we serve.

My particular office serves 783 individuals within Lake County alone. Agency-wide, which includes Humboldt, Del Norte, Mendocino, and Lake counties, RCRC serves 3,946 individuals.

That means that RCRC serves 3,946 people who would have otherwise been sent to developmental centers (also known as institutions) to live instead of being active participants in their communities had it not been for the funding through Medicaid Waiver.

3,946 women, men, children, and infants who would be without access to adequate housing, employment, and specialized medical support services if not for Medicaid.

3,946 people, some of whom might need intensive behavioral support, mental health services, or counseling would not have access to these life-changing supports without Medicaid funding.

3,946 people, some of whom were a part of the Early Start (ages 0-3) program, some of whom are no longer clients served by Regional Center because the

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



services offered by the Early Start program assisted infants in the most crucial stages of their development.

3,946 people whom, if they require life-saving prescriptions to be filled and cannot meet the cost can be met via Medicaid funding.

3,946 people, some of whom do not really want services beyond a monthly bus pass, so that they can get their errands done independently and go to their medical appointments.

3,946 people whose lives were changed for the better, who are able to live more fulfilling lives, who are able to be included and embraced as members of communities throughout California. I cannot possibly imagine what life would be like for them without the funding that is currently available. I have heard stories and have seen documentaries about life in institutions in the past, and I have seen people in my day-to-day work who used to live in institutions as they cope and adjust to life with more freedom. These stories and these observations are far from pretty. With the right supports, if truly needed by the individuals, people can live as independently as possible and be empowered to self-advocate. They simply cannot do this if left to fend for themselves and individually shoulder the costs of medical care, early intervention, therapy in numerous forms, home supports, day programs, respite, behavioral support, and so on.

Our services do require Medicaid waiver funding, however. Without it, many individuals and families would be obligated to shoulder private-pay, long-term financial hardships. To paraphrase Ghandi, you judge a society by how it treats the most vulnerable of it's population. People with disabilities are routinely victims of physical, mental, sexual, and financial abuse, along with neglect. One of the easiest things we can do to help out those with disabilities is to ensure that our tax dollars are being used to provide supports and services to those in need.

For me, I want my tax dollars to continue to fund Medicaid.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Heath Russell

Name

Lakeport, Lake County

City or County

95453

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My Story my Name is Lawrence P. Ryan I am 61 years old I am a client of Westside Regional Center I need My Medicaid Services Continue do to I am disabled And Westside Regional Center Provides me service to get me through so I need your Support in keeping the Medicaid program in tact Westside Regional Center uses the Medicaid funding Keep all there programs going. Also I also have Afid and if you, Take my services away I will surely die. So please keep the Medicaid program to , continue to help me and my health and lifestyle and as well as 9000 Plus client and family at Westside Regional Center.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Ryan

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90005

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Rosanna Ryan [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:37 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: tell your story

affordable health care is very important to people with disabilities money is tight so it's so important to have good affordable health care for me and my roommate. yes regional center services has helped me stay healthy and all the good stuff or do things that we want to. my name is rosie ryan i live in redding,ca and shasta county

Sent from Outlook



August 11, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I need Medicaid to help pay for my medical expenses.

Sincerely,

Rosie Ryan

Name

Redding, Shasta County

City or County

96001

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Both my son and I are on Medicaid, I am also on Medicare for a psychological disability. My son is autistic and has an anxiety disorder as well as ADHD and is medicated of his symptoms. Three and a half years ago I made the extruciating decision to put my 14 year old son into a group home due to his extreme aggressive behaviors and violent outbursts. I am a single mom and felt that both of our lives were in danger if he were to stay in my care. Tri Counties Regional Center has been absolutely critical in my son's journey with autism. They have provided us with supports and treatment options; they provide my son with the psychiatrist that prescribes his medication and most importantly, they pay for the group home services that have literally saved our lives. Cutting funding and taking away services like these will be a social disservice to individuals with disabilities. My sons life is enriched and has a much more positive future ahead of him due to the services that he's received through Medicaid/Medi-Cal. Please, for the sake of families that are effected by disability, please don't take away these funds. Please don't make an already difficult life, that much more difficult. I am literally begging you.

Sincerely,

Paige Rynning

Name

Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County

City or County

93402

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 5, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a mom of a 5 year old and a 2 year old, my son who is now 5 years old was diagnosed with autism. He is non-verbal, has very low cognitive, non-communicative, very aggressive and has no awareness of danger. My 2 years old has speech delays and also in need of services.

My husband is the only one working for the whole family, although not in poverty rate, we are still struggling to make ends meet. I am not working because our son is very aggressive and unaware of danger and I need to stay home to make sure of his safety. To top it all.. my husband's company insurance does not cover any services (actually a lot) that we need for our kids like therapies and other stuff related to Autism and or development delays.

He is very low in cognitive and would only get minimal speech and OT services in school. So regional center helped us to get Medicaid waiver for the other services that we need and for IHSS, after having approved for Medicaid, we then was able to get OT which he needed for his sensory seeking needs and was able to see huge improvements afterwards, we are now able to have his teeth done (which was really expensive because he needed to be sedated since he won't let anyone touch his mouth.) We are now able to get him checked and evaluated for other needs and got approved recently for speech therapy. It was life changing because it opened resources for my sons treatments and we are able to address his medical needs without worrying where to get money for deductibles and co-pays

We are currently paying cash for my daughter's evaluations and possible treatments such as OT since our insurance doesn't cover any of it and the IHSS is a really big help for us. We are able to stay in our apartment and not worry where we will get money for rent.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Back in 2014, my husband lost his job, we lost our insurance, lost our car, got evicted both jobless and no insurance and 4 months pregnant with my second child. We never applied for medical and did not even consider getting EDD unemployment until after 3 months of losing job because we knew we are going to get job and insurance. Although we paid a lot in taxes when both of us were working and had no kids yet. I never applied for WIC, Cal- fresh or not even SSI. But things have changed, with 2 kids in need of therapy and treatments (which costs \$100++ per kid/ per hour) and having 1 income household of 4, and that we have kids to take care of.

In losing all medi-cal benefits, we are afraid that we will not be able to give all necessary treatments, we will not be able to have his therapies , he will regress and would not be able to develop skills, self-help care and worried that no one would take care of him when we are old and not able to care for him physically and that he will still be in diaper as an adult, and would need assistance in all his needs such as feeding, bathing, dressing up, hygiene care till adult because he did not get the Therapy and self-help training due to losing benefits.

We are in great need of this help.

Sincerely,

Kristine Salazar-Garcia

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92867

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 11, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Es un servicio para un niño con necesidades especiales lo primordial su primera herramienta para poder logra incorporarse a la sociedad y mejorar su calidad de vida y el impacto de si educación y salud sin ese recurso de Medical mi hijo necesito ese servicio desde el primer grado por terapias y diferentes servicios yo no podría pagar por todo lo que necesita son servicios muy caros pero necesarios la mayoría de nuestros niños necesitan del programa de por vida y tal vez un niño sin Medical, y los servicios que necesite jamás será un graduado de una escuela y mucho menos llegar a la universidad.

Sincerely,

Angelica Salvador

Name

Inglewood, Los Angeles County

City or County

90304

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son, diagnosed with ASD, requires Regional Center support services to cover costs of his Applied Behavioral Analysis Therapy. If Medicaid is cut, or my private health insurance doesn't cover the expenses, I would have no other treatment option for him. NONE. Intellectual Disability is not something to ignore. My son will have this for life. Help those who need financial support when it comes to paying for the high cost of healthcare services.

Sincerely,

Gilda Sanchez

Name

Hawthorne, Los Angeles County

City or County

90250

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



10/21/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

I WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOU
WOULD NOT TAKE AWAY OUR
SPECIAL NEEDS BECAUSE IT WOULD
NOT BE ABLE TO DO THINGS, SO
PLEASE DO NOT TAKE AWAY OUR
CARE, BECAUSE WE WONT BE ABLE
~~TO~~ TO DO ANYTHING. BECAUSE ITS
IMPORTANT TO US. WE ~~NEED~~ ~~FOR~~
NEED SERVICES TO LIVE OUR LIVES.
WITHOUT THEM WE WOULDN'T SURVIVE.
THANK YOU

Sincerely,

ROSEMARIE SANCHEZ

Name

Stockton, CA

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



June 20-17
Date

To whom it may concern,

Don't take away my health insurance
medi-cal/medi-cade I need my
insurance to live and to insure
my safety and ~~health~~ health
please do not cut my medi-cal/
medi-cade insurance funding.

Sincerely,

Marianna S. Sanfilippo

Name

Manteca - San Joaquin C.A.

City or County

95330

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicare is helping so much. My 19 year old autistic daughter is doing better. She was diagnosed with autism ocd specific learning disorders. When my husband lost his job we lost our health insurance. My daughter had a melt down because she was with out her meds. We had to drive to downtown LA for a refill on her prescriptions. Then I had to apply for Medicaid and look for a Dr for her. This was an agonizing experience to see your child suffering. Once the Medicaid was approved she received personal therapy, group therapy, in home help. She is so young and has come a long way. Please don't take away what has helped her to be a person in this society. If we lose this thing will be bad. Not just for her but for all those that need the help. Please think if the tables where turned and your child was about to be cut from life improving care. What type of fear would you feel? Mine was pure terror.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

Kira Santora

Name

La Mirada, Los Angeles County

City or County

7142678984

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/16/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

We have an 18 month old with a rare form of muscular dystrophy with hydrocephalus. She is deaf-blind, on a feeding tube, and will need a wheelchair. We want to be able to care for her in our home, together as a family.

Sincerely,

Lori Sato

Name

Lake Forest, Orange County

City or County

92609

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My story can start back 26 years, as that is how old my daughter is.....Alyssa was born healthy but contracted Meningo-Encephalitis (Meningitis @ base of brain) at 6 weeks of age. From that disease her head stunted growth which resulted in a variety of issues she must face. Medical, physical & emotional issues.. She has developmental delay, seizure disorder, speech delay, visually impaired, Crohn's disease, Rheumatoid Arthritis, sleep disorder (awake 24-30 hrs at a time, the sleep 4-6 hrs) and she's only 26 years old. As a single parent, who provides 24 hour care for her is a struggle but worth it... Without her Medical-Cal(thru SSI) she WOULD NOT survive. Her medications (for seizures rheumatoid arthritis and Crohn's disease) would cost thousands of \$\$\$ a month which I couldn't afford on my salary alone, and with Medical-Cal they are paid for at \$0 cost. Without Medical-Cal she wouldn't be able to have her Remicade medication given via a 4 hr transfusion every 7 weeks on order to control her flare ups in intestines, hands and knees from diseases she has...With out Medical-Cal coverage I wouldn't be able to stay at home and be her IHSS Care provider as that too is covered by Medical-Cal. I honestly don't like to think about the fact that the NEW HEALTHCARE plans that Republicans have construed together could become reality, as that reality would be the beginning of my child's ending in this world!!!! It pains me to see the news daily to hear that these people that citizens of this great country voted in place, can literally have NO HEART, SYMPATHY, or SOUL and can just come up with a plan that if in place would basically kill off a huge part of this country's population within time!!! Without the proper medications, treatment, vaccinations, education, therapies, and most of all the care of everyone in our disabled community, our disabled community will be at the risk of dying off....WE parents, care providers, doctors, teachers, nurses, hospitals, pharmacies, cannot provide the best love and care without the assistance of MEDI-CAL included in our healthplan! Please I urge you to forward my letter to ALL MEMBERS ... THEY NEED TO VOTE NO on the HEALTHCARE ACT.....Please....

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Elaine Saucedo

Name

Fresno, Fresno County

City or County

93722

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

When I became pregnant with my one and only child, I was considered a high risk pregnancy, age, health factors and with Kaiser my first month alone would have cost me my entire deductible of \$5000 of testing, in tears I thought I will have to have an abortion because I can not afford this, then I found out even though I was working I could be become eligible for Medi-cal. Beautiful happy baby born, at around 12-14 months I began noticing behaviors and underwent a a month long assessment at Childrens hospital to find my daughter was on the "spectrum" we began with Regional Center. During this time my fiance was also diagnosed with lung cancer and once again even though I was working there would have been no way for us to do treatments for him and therapies for her without the support of Medi-cal and regional center. Today 3 years later he is currently cancer free and she will be able to attend a "regular" school due the support we have received. I am average white working American who could've of lost all without this support. Please consider how many if us are out there.

Sincerely,

Mardi Scarantino

Name

Camarillo, Ventura County

City or County

93010

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this for my son Tyler Schutz, who was born with Kabuki Syndrome. It is so rare most specialists have never heard of it before. It affects one in 33,000 births. Since his birth we have been challenged to find specialists that even know about Kabuki Syndrome and are able to help Tyler. He has birth defects, in the eye, ear, heart, kidneys, neuro muscular, orthopedic, and feet abnormalities. So we see many specialists all the time. I pay for three insurances for my son, and he also receives SSI benefits and medi-cal, yet I add the out of pocket expenses for him each year, and the past year I paid over \$33k out of pocket for medical expenses not covered.

Tyler is 20 now, and would like to be more self sufficient and hopefully live in an apartment. The San Diego Regional Center has been involved with Tyler since he was born. I had them working along side the San Dieguito Unified School District special ed school staff at all of his IEP meetings, so we could have them work together on Tyler's progressive goals. During school the Regional Center provided tutoring each week to help with school work. Then Tyler graduated high school last year, and we transitioned to fully working with the San Diego Regional Center, and now they provide the College 2 Career Program which Tyler interviewed for as they only take 20 applicants and it helps the students in their first 2 years of community college. They have helped him with starting and transitioning into college and taking classes with a coach at college for him, and guiding him as to the career he wants to go into. SD. Regional Center has also provided via their Vendor Xcite Steps, a coach that comes to our house once a week, to help Tyler with various living skills, such as preparing a dinner, meal preparation, learning how to take Uber to the grocery store, budgeting, and making lunches to take to college. This is called Independent Learning Skills. This is a huge item in helping my son advance to learn these skills, to become hopefully more independent. Once he accomplishes these skills, then the coach will teach him about cleaning the house,

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



and doing laundry. We couldn't do all these things alone, as we have at least 3 medical appointments a week, and Tyler doing college 2 days a week, and he also does an internship 1 day a week.

The San Diego Regional Center is fantastic, our social worker comes to our house and makes sure their vendor Xcite Steps are doing everything to attain Tyler's goals. They all work together in a perfect cohesive manner to help tyler. They truly care. We couldn't afford to do all this alone.

Sincerely,

Tyler Schutz

Name

Del Mar, San Diego County

City or County

92014

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



JUNE - 21 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DON'T TAKE AWAY
MY MEDICATION. IT WILL
MAKE GOING TO THE DOCTOR
HARDER ~~IF I~~ ^{IF I} ~~GET~~ ^{GET} SICK I WON'T BE
ABLE TO GET BETTER.

Sincerely,

GINA SCOTT
Name

HANFORD
City or County

95336
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Susan Segal [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 1:03 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: My son with Autism

Dear Council Members,

My son is not 20 years old. He was diagnosed with "high functioning autism" when he was three. Thanks to the support from Napa County of Education and North Bay Regional my son recieved ABA therapy and dental desensitization therapy. Both therapies were extremely life changing when he was young.

My son does have Medi-Cal and I just found out that that is what the present Republican Administration is wanting to repeal in the Affordable Care Act.

This cannot be allowed to happen! This will significantly deteriorate the health care for millions with health care needs.

My son is lucky. We can afford private health care, but that too is increasing. American's need to keep Medi-Cal funds going. Every American with a disability deserves health care. Not just minimal or substandard health care but good, clean, professional health care.

Please do not allow this administration to repeal or replace the ACA unless there is a solid, better plan. That is not what is being offered today. Make this administration get it right before you change anything

Thank you,
Susan Segal
[REDACTED]

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Denise Silva [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:54 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters to me...

Hello,

My name is Denise Server. I live in Ventura County. I am writing to you to express my concern over the possible change in Medicaid.

My sister Doreen Silva lives at Lina's Guest home" in Oxnard Ca. She is 53 years old. She has been in a home for the past 3 years. Doreen has Down syndrome and mild retardation.

My mother, who raised her, as a single parent since she was born, could not care for her any longer. Doreen is the light of our lives, and was very active in the community. My mother had her participate in Special Olympics, and other activities. My mother Connie was also a foster parent to special needs children.

Recently, my mother developed cancer. She could not take care of my sister and forgo treatment. It was the most difficulty decision she had to make. She had to put my sister in assisted living home.

Doreen has been supported through Medicaid, and we would not have known what to do, if we did not have this service. She has had 2 strokes and seizures – and now has server dementia.

My oldest sister and I have now taken on the responsibility of taking care of my mother. We both have full time jobs, a family of our own, and are trying hard to keep my mom comfortable.

With all that is going on, I don't know how we would be able to give my sister Doreen, the care that Lina's house is currently giving her. They are truly amazing. I visit her often, unannounced and am so thankful that my mom does not have to worry of how well she is been taken care of.

Doreen is my mother's entire life, and had to give her up, when Doreen was 50 yrs. old. If we did not have this resource, I don't know what my mother (us) would have done...

I can't comprehend the fact that this could be jeopardized, as there are so many stories out there, like my sister Doreen's.

I strongly urge congress, to pass any bill, that would affect all the disabled from Medicaid and disrupt their lives, families, and take leave them without assistance. . They have no control of how to take care of themselves. How could Americans leave them, like they are an afterthought?

My entire family and extended family have always worked, paid taxes, and never had to rely on state supported income. I would expect that the taxes we all have paid, and are currently paying into support programs such as Medicaid.

I only pray that this will be revoked and we close this insane chapter in the USA.

Thank you,

Denise Server



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

Pleas Keep
the funding
for Medicaid-
I have Down Syndrome
and need The
health care-

Sincerely,

JON Shapiro

Name

CORTE HADERA CIR

City or County

CA 94925

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

ple ase keep
the funtion
for medicatib
I have down syhrome
and need the
health care

Sincerely,

Holly Shapiro James
Name
144 Sandpiper Circle
City or County
Cortez Madrid
Zip Code 94925

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Dear Representative Waters,

I have a younger sister who is developmentally disabled, Suzy Shipley. Suzy cannot speak and will forever be dependent on someone keeping a kind watchful eye on her. My parents are working class people who were told in 1975 that their 18 month old had a seizure and now has brain damage. My parents did and continue to do, in their 70s, everything they can to make the best life for my sister. Regional Services in Los Angeles have helped them greatly when they needed guidance on how to help a child like Suzy. And now that Suzy is an adult in her 40s living in Northern California, the regional services there have helped my parents create a safe environment so Suzy can grow.


My parents have always felt grateful to the regional services for the guidance and extra money they provide for they have helped keep Suzy out of a group home. In a group home Suzy does not do well. In Suzy's teens my parents had to go with this option when they realized that one income from a highway patrol officer for a family of 4 was not paying the bills. So my mom was no longer able to be a stay at home parent for Suzy for she had to join the work force. In a group home Suzy did not do well. She may not be able to speak but her actions shared her unhappiness. Regional Services helped my parents create a safe home for Suzy to thrive. Suzy has a caretaker and lives independent of her parents. The caretaker lives with Suzy 24 hours a day and had allowed Suzy to have 1:1 care that she needs to learn. My parents and I are so grateful for the Regional Services help throughout Suzy's life. And we believe Suzy would not have a healthy, happy home without them.

Please fight against the Health Care bill in the Senate's hands that risks Medicaid for those with Developmental Disabilities. They, like my sister, may not have a voice so it's important to really think how changing Medicaid for them can affect them, every day.

I am begging for you to think deeply about this.

Thank you.

Michelle Shipley-Riddle


Hawthorne, CA 90250



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have been a residential care-home owner of a facility for medically fragile children for 28 years. The children who have resided in our home have had complex medical needs. Some have spent the first one to two years of their lives in intensive care units. They have come to us dependent on ventilators, needing dialysis 12 hours out of every 24, and on involved tube feeding and medication schedules.

A child's placement in our facility is funded through the Regional Center or through CPS. These agencies receive a significant portion of these funds through MediCal/Medicaid. If these funds were not available our facilities would not be sustainable and would close. These precious and most vulnerable children would be readmitted to the hospital to live.

Not all of our children have had parental involvement so our facility not only gives them a chance to be in the community but a chance to have a family. It is easy to calculate the mind boggling cost difference between a child living in an intensive care unit and one living in community care. The incalculable cost is the mental well-being of our children.

Please remember our children.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Short, Owner/administrator of
Kathleen Short's Care Home

Name

Carmichael, Sacramento County

City or County

95608

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I sit in anxious concern over the proposed cuts in medicaid.

Since turning 18, my son, Adam, receives medicaid. What this means is that my severely disabled son receives:

Psychiatric visits with Dr. Lee every 90 days, who reviews Adam's blood work and updates his medications.

Monthly Group Home visits with Dr. Santos, who administers physical examination and treats his ongoing fungal foot infection

The prescribed medications necessary for Adam to function in the world

Dental coverage is no longer provided by medicaid; we lost that 3 years ago in a former round of budget cuts.

Over the past two days Adam has read about and heard senators refer to people like him as a 'burden and drain on society.'

The arrogance of people who have no idea how living with someone with special needs enhances the lives of all who know them.

What might Adam might say about this?

- He might tell you about Hans Asperger, the Austrian psychiatrist, who, as a member of the Nazi party, was the doctor who in the early 1930s selected the Jewish children with disabilities who were sent to the gas chambers.
- He might tell you about his work with Meals on Wheels, a job he held for over three years until funding was discontinued in January.
- He might refer you to the hundreds of teachers, specialists and therapists whose work focuses on people like him and more importantly, how he has made a difference in all of their lives.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



But what I am most certain he would tell you, is that if he had to be born with autism, which he was, and if he had been provided the best education possible for children with severe disabilities, which he did, and if, as he turns thirty, he could live in a group home with appropriate independence with appropriate care, which he does, he is most grateful to live in America, a country, who up until this past week, supports members of society who live with severe disabilities.

But Adam cannot tell you these things because he cannot speak. However, he fully understands.

And he votes.

Sincerely,

Sheila Silver

Name

Anaheim, Orange County

City or County

92801

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/15/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My adult son, who has developmental disabilities, has lived successfully in his own home for the past 17 years. He relies on Medicaid not only for his medical health needs but also for the direct care support he receives from IHSS. He loves the independence he has achieved and the life he has created for himself. He is a daily reminder to everyone he comes in contact with that with good healthcare and dependable support he can share his unique gifts of love, laughter and spirit. That he too helps strengthens the fabric in his community that is called a good life for everyone.

We ask our congress representatives and senators to not cut Medicaid funding. Please make sure all services that are provided by Medicare for people with Developmental Disabilities continues without any further reductions in services and funding!

Sincerely,

Leslie Simon-Plumlee

Name

Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County

City or County

95060

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Dick Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 8:49 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Medicare and RCOC

We have raised three children that started out in our home as foster children. All three had some sort of disability and were registered with RCOC.

The oldest, a girl, was eventually adopted by us, but during her early teen years needed to be placed in a residential home for her behavior issues. She spent two years there and then came back to live with us, and complete high school. She is now married and has 4 children of her own. If it wasn't for Medicare and RCOC this intervention would have cost us over \$100,000. Without this help, it would be hard to tell how she may have turned out, so we are very thankful that we had a place to go for help.

The second child, a boy, was given to us with severe FAS, was on a heart monitor and a feeding tube. His care in his early years were filled with medical specialist, therapists, and was on Hemitrope for several years. He also has Medicare and is an RCOC client. At 18 years of age, and after he graduated from high school, he went into an Independent Living Program sponsored and administered by RCOC. He is now 28 and still in the program, has an RCOC supported job as well as receives SSI. If he did not have these options he would probably be living on the street.

The third child, also a boy, came to us with a seizure disorder and mild CP, was on a heart monitor and a feeding tube, and still lives with us. He receives Medicare, SSI and is an RCOC client. He also receives IHSS services. He received his Certificate of Completion from high school when he was 18. He went from there into a transition program until he was 22, all sponsored and administered by RCOC. He is now in a Community Based Program funded and administered by RCOC. He is a happy well liked young adult that is easy to care for due to his participation in these programs. Without RCOC support he would be at home every day learning nothing new and would not have any other young adults to associate with.

Children with a disability are hard to deal with on a daily basis, whether they are living with their birth parents, or like ours, live in a foster care environment. Some have more medical needs than others, but in order for them to live a normal life and contribute to society, they need this extra support. Without programs such as Medicare, SSI, IHSS and especially RCOC, they would be more than likely be living in a state sponsored home or on the street.



7/15/17

Date

To whom it may concern,

My completely dependent 28 year old son has a diagnoses of "Profound Mental Retardation with Autistic Tendencies" and Epilepsy. His mental age is 2-3 years. There are no reasoning skills nor is there language. Life with my boy has been challenging and rewarding at the same time. Still, the cost of taking care of him and keeping him home would be a burden I couldn't bare if it weren't for the help we receive from our Regional Center. They are supplying not only my much needed and very necessary Respite, but the wash needed to remove feces from his body and clothes, paper and wet wipes to insure healthy clean skin after a trip to clean him up in the bathroom. They are also funding Psychiatric visits to one of the very few doctors willing to see my son. His behavior makes it difficult to bring him into a doctors office and I couldn't afford to pay for these visits myself. I am working as his In Home Support Services worker, and am not making the money I was making when I worked in mortgage lending. I've made this choice to ensure that his life is as happy and healthy as possible. Since I am his parent I feel this is my obligation.

I know any expenses derived by my son's needs would be my obligation as well, but since he is an adult, I no longer have parent responsibility. I am his Conservator in order to make sure he sees the doctors he needs to see and that they will talk to me. The point being, without the help of the Regional Center of the East Bay, life would become very difficult, stressful and some issues, unsurmountable.

I am but one voice. Yet I hope you will hear me. My family has been grateful for the help we have received and do not take it for granted. These things we receive allow for "normal" every day life and care and comfort can be given.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please consider if there is anyone in your life that is dependent on such services. How would it affect them? Would they actually be

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



grateful for any decrease in services? Are there not other ways of insuring that innocents do not become the victims of over spending in areas where it is not needed? Please take another look at your accounting books and please do not let special interest groups sway your judgement. These folks of the Special Needs sector are so dependent upon you to look after them. Just as we, there caretakers must.

Thank you very much for your time. My family appreciates your spirit of dedication to the people of California.

Sincerely,

Reba Jane Smith

Name

Hercules, Contra Costa County

City or County

94547

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I personally don't have a Medicaid (Medi-Cal in CA) story, but I am a Benefits Counselor at Disability Services & Legal Center (DSLCL) where I deal with disabled people who don't take their prescribed medication(s) because they can't afford them. One lady I talked to had an organ transplant. She said one of her anti-rejection medications was \$11,000 a month. Luckily, she had no co-pay or she couldn't afford to take that medication. If people don't take their medications, they may end up in the hospital. Sometimes people don't go to doctors when they need to because they can't afford to see the doctor. All of this adds up to lack of medical care for disabled people. Some people go to clinics that charge them on a sliding scale. If the person had to choose between buying food and paying for the doctor visit, but can't decide what to do, they may end up in the emergency room for being malnourished and not taking their medication(s). There aren't just a few people in this boat, but a lot of disabled people are in it and they feel like the boat is quickly sinking. More has to be done for people who can't afford health insurance, medications, and good medical care.

Sincerely,

Sande Smith

Name

Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

City or County

95401

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

When our son was diagnosed with Autism, the insurance coverage we had specifically excluded ABA therapy which is one of the only treatments proven to help people with Autism adjust towards a life of independence. So, we were referred to our local Regional Center where we eventually learned that Medicaid would cover some ABA therapy for our son. Since that time, our son has been working with specialists who are helping him learn to communicate, follow societal rules, and essentially “fit in” and thrive in our world. It has taken time

Sincerely,

Christopher Snyder

Name

Pacifica, San Mateo County

City or County

94044

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 23 yo daughter has developmental disabilities and is currently completing the Wayfinders program at Fresno State. This program has taught her essential independent living skills. In August she will move to the Adaptive Learning center in Concord where she will live in her own apartment with the supports and coaching necessary to continue her growth towards greater independence. Both of these programs are vendorized by the Regional Center. Without the support of Regional Center our daughter would not be able to live independently in the community. Please do all you can to protect Medicaid as ,Medicaid currently pays approximately half the cost of many community services through Regional Centers. Our daughter will need to rely on Regional services for the rest of her life and long after we , her parents, are no longer alive and able to help her.

Sincerely,

Vicki Sommer

Name

Berkeley, Alameda County

City or County

94703

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter with a great sense of urgency and as a Regional Center Services Coordinator, as an advocate for persons with developmental disabilities and mental health needs, and as a parent of a child with developmental disabilities. Regional centers are nonprofit private corporations that contract with the Department of Developmental Services to provide or coordinate services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities. They have offices throughout California to provide a local resource to help find and access the many services available to individuals and their families.

For the past 5 decades individuals with co-occurring developmental disabilities and mental health conditions have been able to live a high quality life in communities across the U.S. with the support of programs funded through Medicaid. These programs have allowed people to receive critical services including physical health care, quality behavioral health services, staff support in group homes, direct support staff to train individuals to gain the skills needed to get and keep jobs, and receive services required to live as independently as possible in every state in the U.S. These services have prevented thousands upon thousands of people with significant disabilities from needing more costly institutional services or becoming homeless.

While there are many aspects of the Affordable Care Act that might need revision, many of the proposals in the American Health Care Act (AHCA) will have a devastating impact on services that are so critical to the lives of people with disabilities. For example, while the concept of Medicaid per capita caps might look appealing, the reductions of funding immediately and compounded over time will result in service reductions that will lead to poorer health and exacerbated mental health conditions that will ultimately cost more money. Reduced community supports will create greater reliance on institutional care, rolling back 50 years of movement away from large institutions to community-based services. The indisputable fact is that a loss of home and community-based services would be

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



devastating to children and adults with disabilities.

Medicaid funds more than 75% of supports and services to people with disabilities in the U.S. in addition to health care. This federal/state partnership has been incredibly effective. A change in this partnership will jeopardize services such as mental health care for this population, adequate staff in homes in the community along with many others. Other programs that will be hurt by these cuts are special education programs, community based day programs, work assist programs, and many other quality of life programs.

Paul Ryan in his very moving speech following the tragic shootings in Virginia spoke about being united in our humanity. I urge you to take a serious look at the provisions in the American Health Care Act and what its impact will be not only on people with developmental disabilities and their families but on everyone who relies on Medicaid for services. America can and must do better.

Thank you for your consideration. If you would like to discuss these concerns more fully, please contact me.

Christine Sookne, Service Coordinator and Advocate for people with developmental disabilities

[REDACTED]
Ukiah, CA 95482
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My niece Elizabeth is autistic & non-verbal so I write for her.

Elizabeth needs Medicaid to survive !!!

Elizabeth also need IHSS to stay in her own home & be an independent as possible.

Please preserve these programs.

Sincerely,

Sountru Sountru

Name

San Francisco, Alameda County

City or County

94016

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is an essential part of covering costs for families with a child who has a disability.

Sincerely,

John Speake

Name

Sacramento

City or County

94203

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/23/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My name is Reid Spurgeon. I am 16 years old and have severe myoclonic epilepsy. My mom is writing this for me because I am developmentally disabled. My mom is my lifeline and she says Medicaid is her lifeline for me. You see, my mom used to work outside the home but she stays home 24/7 to care for me. It's a lot of work but she loves it because I am able to live at home with my family. I can't imagine being sent off to some group home, tossed in a wheelchair all day, rolled up in front of a tv. I have such a full life even if I'm not able to cognitively understand it all. I'm happy because California generously helps me with Medicaid. They help pay for a quality wheelchair, a great walker to stretch my legs and build muscle, all my daipers, and lots of great people and programs at my special ed school. Best of all Medicaid helps fund IHSS so my mom can work with me and get some financial assistance. Medicaid doesn't pay for everything and my family doesn't expect it to. It helps. Plain and simple. It helps. It helps my parents not stress about buying my seizure medication and taking me to a neurologist for regular checkups. Medicaid helps. It helps my parents help me.

Sincerely,

Reid Spurgeon

Name

Huntington Beach, Orange County

City or County

92646

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Lisa Stanton [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 12:52 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: DO NOT ALLOW THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT TO PASS CONGRESS!!!

I serve as a Regional Advisory Committee member of the SCDD Orange County Office.

Please do not allow the American Health Care Act to be passed by Congress!

This bill is intended to reduce the Medicaid expansion and eventually eliminate Medicaid which will severely impact the health care and well-being of the Developmentally Disabled in addition to the other vulnerable populations who heavily rely on Medicaid (MediCal in CA) for their health care.

My 26 year old son, Jordan, has benefitted greatly from having MediCal and it's elimination would make it impossible for him to get the medical services he so desperately needs!

Lisa M. Stanton, M.A. MFC 42379

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

[REDACTED]
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Notice: This email and any attachments to it may be privileged and/or confidential, and may contain Protected Health Information. If this email was sent to you in error, please notify me immediately by telephone or reply email. Any use, dissemination, retention, printing, or copying of this email or any attachment is prohibited.



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is 27 years old and developmentally disabled, a condition he was born with. He has been diagnosed with a thought disorder, Cognitive Disorder NOS, receives services from the Regional Center of Orange County, and is forced to rely on public transportation because of his disability.

My son attends the disabled program at a local community college, has worked part-time as a courtesy clerk at a grocery store near his home for 10 years, and relies heavily on MediCal (Medicaid) and Medicare for all his health needs and services.

Cutting back on Medicaid would reduce the access my son has to health care that is crucial for his survival. Having a developmental disability limits how much he can afford to pay for his own health care.

We implore you to take into consideration how much this 'Better' Health Care Bill will adversely impact the weakest and neediest in our county, the disabled, the working poor, and older Americans 50 to 64 years old.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Stanton

Name

Costa Mesa, Orange County

City or County

92626

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6-24-2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

CONGRESS AND POLITICIANS

INM A IHSS PROVIDE

FOR A CLIENT

AND INM A MEDICAL MEDICARE

IT DONT MEDICAL TO BE CUT
ACROSS CALIFORNIA.

INM A ALTA REGIONAL CENTER
AND I DONT WANT IHSS TO BE CUT OFF

Sincerely,

Jeffery Stephens

Name

Sacramento CA

City or County

95825

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter, Jessica, spent much of her first five years in and out of the hospital. In addition to severe disabilities, she had many chronic health care needs. We were able to maintain her in our home with help from the Regional Center until she turned 18. Now she lives in a caring adult residential facility with nursing support for her medical needs. Her health has really improved since she moved out of our home, and we think this is because of the quality of the care and support she has received in her adult residential facility. She has fewer hospitalizations and doctor's visits because of her community placement. She lives close enough to us so that we can make unannounced visits and also bring her home on weekends and holidays. I don't think my daughter would be with us today if it were not for Medicaid and the medical and social services it covers.

Sincerely,

Janette Stokley

Name

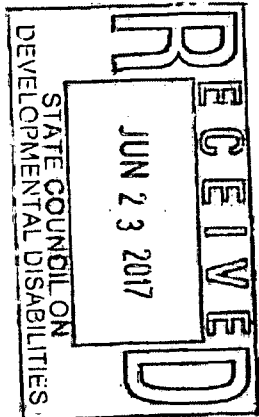
San Jose, Santa Clara County

City or County

95112

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



I need my medical
PLEASE

I want to keep

my medical

Thank you Linda
STONE

Linda Stone

27 Mariposa Apt #5

San Anselmo, CA

94960





6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I take my medications regularly and throughout the day. If this benefit is taken away from me. It would be hard and a struggle to afford my expenses for my medications. I visit the doctors on a regular basis, and if something urgent were to come up, I would want to be reassured that I will be taken care of. Having my expenses covered is also reassuring for me because without these benefits I would not be able to afford these doctor visits and if there was an emergency. I otherwise would not be able to afford these necessities on my own.

Sincerely,

Leeman Storti

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95350

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



JULY 14, 17

Date

To whom it may concern,

I NOT would you
cut are program
would you keep
are program. keep my
job. and learn speak
up. if people first
and keep my transportation
I love my program
allright. and BEEN GOES
there long time. keep
life story.

Sincerely,

chuck strother

Name

STOCKTON CA

City or County

95204

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Patty Stump [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:30 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicare is important

I am a service broker for clients with "disabilities"all originated at birth and went through the early intervention program offered in Mono County.

Now young adults, ranging in abilities from total dependency to need for live in supervision to a more distant level of supervision but all require a relatively large amount of support and will not succeed at making enough income to support themselves. All have families that contribute as much as they can afford, as well as lots of time and energy to their adult/child with challenges.

Several could not live out of residential care facility or institutional placement which costs much more than IHSS support they receive. One lives in a household placement in Bakersfield which is strenuous for the family as he is a twin to his brother who also has an autism diagnosis. The brother continues to live at home. Several of my clients need specialized medical care and need to travel outside of our area, requiring several hundred miles of travel to and from for care when necessary. All are clients of kern Regional Center from early childhood or birth. They are also part of a pilot project which will become absorbed by Medicare, Self Determination.

Please let me know if there is anything at all I can contribute to Medicare remain in development at the State level by board, comprised of individuals some of whom know and understand the needs of the "disabled" population.



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-Cal is the lifeline and safety net for my family. Without it, my family will be forced into a position where no one can afford to see a medical doctor and my autistic son will lose all the medical and mental support and services. We can't afford to take Christopher to see a neurologist, ABA intervention, OT and Speech Therapy. Please save MediCal.

Sincerely,

Youngeng Sun

Name

San Marino, Los Angeles County

City or County

91108

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I need my medicaid to pay my doctors, daily care, and my program through Regional Center. As with many Californians and other states we rely on these long term supports to stay healthy and remain in our homes and stay out of costly institutions.

Sincerely,

Devin Synogogue

Name

Compton, Los Angeles County

City or County

90220

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

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6/18/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid helps our family survive. Our son was born full-term with Cerebral Palsy and cognitive delay, despite all the perfect prenatal tests and care. A typical week involves physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and doctor visits. Medi-Cal is our secondary insurance and helps us cope with the impact. Medi-Cal provided diapers when our insurance company denied incontinence supplies. After age 12, he no longer uses diapers. Thank you Medi-Cal for the supports you provide to families and people with special needs.

Sincerely,

Lisa Tarlton

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92620

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son has had cerebral palsy since birth. He is 17. There was no trauma at birth. His ongoing medical needs require physical therapy to walk and speech to be understood. With these supports, he has a good life and volunteers to help others when he can. I care for him while he lives in our home. Someday, we hope he will live on his own. THANK YOU Medi-Cal for covering a small way to make these ongoing chronic medical conditions bearable. For example, parents paid for the first 6 years of diapers, and Medi-Cal paid for 2 years. Parents pay for transportation, and primary health insurance. Medi-Cal covers just the co-pay.

Sincerely,

Lisa Tarlton

Name

Irvine, Orange County

City or County

92620

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

I can truly say that Medicaid has been an enormous help in the personal and health care and well being of my daughter. I am not only shock that reduction or obliteration of funding of services to the nations' citizens who are in need of help is being considered.

Remember when the Republicans accused the Obama administration of creating a "Death Panel" during the creation of the Affordable Care, Well excuse me but this American Health Care Plan reeks of what they were spewing then.

I appreciate all that you are doing and I intend to contact my representatives to let them know my feelings.

Thank you.

Carmen S. Taylor

[REDACTED]

Santa Rosa, CA 95404



7/14/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Regional center in my state is helping to fund my day program who has a great art program and Art Gallery in which I show my artwork often. I have sold several pieces. Medicaid also helps with my necessary equipment (I am waiting for a new electric wheelchair for my independent mobility) a well as other medical supplies. Medicaid helps me to be as independent as possible. Cuts to Medicaid would be detrimental to me. I want to stay in my own home I do not want to be in a convalescent home.

Sincerely,

Karen Taylor

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90008

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



4/28/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-Cal has given me the opportunity to see my Primary Care Physician, along with Specialists, for my Medical Conditions that I have. Without Medi-Cal I wouldn't have the means to get services by: Primary Care Physicians, along with Specialists, for my Medical Conditions that I have constantly.

Sincerely,

Robert Taylor

Name

Clearlake, Lake County

City or County

95422

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



July 22, 2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-Cal is important for me, it gets me the treatment for my IBS Symptoms, and so much more, so much more!

Sincerely,

Robert Taylor

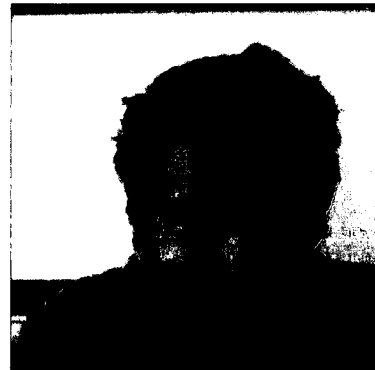
Name

Clearlake, Lake County

City or County

95422

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/4/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My adopted son has Autism. Without his services I would be under tremendous stress to care for him. Please do not cut services that are crucial to the care of my son.

Sincerely,

Samantha Tehrani

Name

Murrieta, Riverside County

City or County

92562

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a psychiatric nurse working for the County of Santa Barbara. Before the expansion of Medi-Cal/Medicaid, most of my chronic , severely mentally ill clients had absolutely no health insurance. This means their psychiatric conditions could not be stabilized because we often did not have access to the medication to stabilize their symptoms. Now almost all of my clients have insurance, and thoughts medication and access to healthcare that they often need.

As a nurse, it frees me up to spend more time directly with my patients, instead of spending time helping them apply for free meds through patient assistance programs sponsored by pharmaceutical companies. The process of applying for free meds is very time-consuming, and often impossible, because my clients are so severely ill they are unable to provide documentation needed for the applications. When my severely mentally ill clients are unstable and off their medication, they are often tying up the emergency rooms which impacts everyone's public health not only in access to emergency care, but cost us as taxpayers more money.

I completely support the Medi-Cal/Medicaid expansion as a healthcare professional, taxpayer, and citizen.

Sincerely,

Michelle Thomas

Name

Ojai, Ventura County

City or County

93023

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/16/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a nurse who works with chronic homeless mentally ill clients. I also have a disabled son. Medicaid is allowing these very fragile and seriously ill citizen survive. There will be many more homeless people, many more mentally ill people acting out, and many deaths if Medicaid/Medi-Cal does not continue to be given to support these US citizens. This is not a Third World country. Not only do they depend on Medi-Cal for medication and healthcare, but in-home supportive services are vital for those that are physically and mentally disabled and too ill to care for themselves.

Sincerely,

Michelle Thomas

Name

Ojai, Ventura County

City or County

93023

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter, Karen, is a 53 year old woman who has been restricted from a quality life that most of us enjoy. I had eclampsia and neither baby nor I was expected to survive. However, Karen was a beautiful blond, 3 lb. seven weeks premature baby who had a giant blood blister on her head because of a vacuum extraction literary, she was sucked into the world by a contraction to save me. Thanks to hospital staff, she survived and flourished into a bright intelligent child whose mind was filled with the wonders of the world around her. At six years old, everything changed radically. Slowly, a sense of unexplained dread took over, and joy and trust was taken from her by bouts of unconsciousness which lasted for several minutes. Then uncontrolled rhythmic contractions with alternately flexing and relaxing began, and her mouth overflowing with saliva and blood from where she had bitten her tongue. She could no longer be left alone, or swim, ride a bike, play racket ball, concentrate at school - and friends no longer visited. She required special education classes to try to keep up, and students ridiculed and called her airhead. As she got older, the seizures intensified until eventually a left temporal lobe lobotomy was performed to remove the seizure trigger. The surgeon said the procedure was successful; however, Karen's short term memory is completely gone and she is unable to recall from one moment to the next. She continues to have very powerful psycho-motor seizures that are disconcerting to behold, and she has been very seriously hurt through falls or losing consciousness while still standing. She also developed schizophrenia and paranoia. At times she is quite frail, unsteady, and has bouts of tremors in her hands that make it almost impossible to feed herself. She is currently in a nursing home after being found unconscious. Photographs show the physical damage but do not reflect the psychological damage she sustains daily from uncertainty and fear.

Because of the funding received through Medicaid and Orange County Regional Center, Karen has achieved a significant life thought impossible at one time. Thanks to those funds, Karen attends High Hopes Head Injury program that provides vocational art classes, pre-vocational training, music classes, community activities, independent living classes, occupational therapy and speech therapy. Transportation is provided through Medicaid. Rainbow Home Care enables Karen to live in her own apartment because caregivers provide medication supervision, personal grooming; toileting and feeding. They also assist with basic daily needs such as meal preparation, shopping, doctor appointments, light housekeeping, laundry and transportation. None of which Karen could provide for herself.

All the services provided to Karen through Medicaid and Orange County Regional Center allow her to lead a life that affords her a sense of accomplishment and optimism. She has experienced

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



many, many setbacks over the years and it is through the guidance and expertise of those dedicated to the disabled that she has moved from hopelessness to a sense of possibility. OCRC staff have also made themselves available whenever I needed guidance, and Karen's particular case worker is on call at all times. If Medicaid is reduced, it will be catastrophic to not only my daughter, but millions and millions of disabled who are struggling to survive in a world that is not always kind or understanding towards them. Without government funding, it literally means life or death for them because all hope for their future will be destroyed. I respectfully ask you to consider the millions who depend on their government to support their needs. They did not chose the burden bestowed upon them by circumstances beyond their control, but they bravely struggle to reach a better place. The very least we all can do is to firmly support them so they do not stumble into an abyss.

Sincerely,

Marie Thompson

Name

Westminster, Orange County

City or County

92683

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am disabled I have seizures and mobility issues and depression I get social security but that don't pay all my bills or my housing 770 don't go far in California for rent

Sincerely,

Michelle Thompson

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95823

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Sandra Trinidad [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 6:12 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters To Me

Medicaid helps supplement the gaps in my son's primary for-profit health insurance. My son has autism, and needs ABA, speech, and occupational therapies. Although his primary insurance, through his dad's employer, covers his ABA therapy, it only pays for 20 sessions per calendar year for speech and occupational therapies combined. His therapists recommended twice per week speech and occupational therapy. In 5 weeks, we've exhausted the covered 20 sessions from Cigna.

With Medicaid, he continues receiving those therapies throughout the year making great progress. Without Medicaid, he would be years behind where he is today.

If we invest in him today, it will improve his chances of living independently when he's an adult.

Sandra Trinidad
Rancho Santa Margarita
Orange County



4/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 6 year old son has autism. His private, for-profit primary health insurance company, Cigna, pays for some therapy like ABA because that is mandated by the government, but they only pay for 20 sessions of speech and occupational therapy combined per year. Basically, Cigna pays for a month of speech and occupational therapy per year. After that, Medicaid pays for the remaining 11 months of speech and occupational therapy. My son also gets IHSS through Medicaid and he gets respite through Regional Center. Without the help of Medicaid, he will not make as much progress developmentally.

Sincerely,

Sandra Trinidad

Name

Rancho Santa Margarita, Orange County

City or County

92688

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/16/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 6 year son, who has autism, has Medicaid as a secondary insurance. It helps pay for speech, occupational therapy, and in home supportive services. His primary insurance doesn't pay for all the therapy he needs, which is why he needs Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Sandra Trinidad

Name

Rancho Santa Margarita, Orange County

City or County

92688

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/16/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

If I did not have medical my mom would not be able to take care of me. She has IHSS because of medical. I would be in a instuation were it would cost our State or ferderal goverenment over 300k a year to take care of me. I love an independent with my mom support and I have improved over the years so much.

Also I would not be Healrh if I did not have Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Andrew Trujillo

Name

Sacramento, Sacramento County

City or County

95819

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/31/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medi-cal has been invaluable to my son through out his life. Autism is an ongoing work in progress and Medi-cal has been there through many hard times as well as good. Therapy, OT, Speech have been part of growing up. Had it not been for Medi-cal my son may have not made the strides and accomplishments in his life thus far. Autism like so many other disabilities require care which caregivers cannot always provide and with the help of doctors and therapists we continue to grow.

Sincerely,

Pam V.

Name

Bloomington, San Bernardino County

City or County

92316

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/15/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am a 35 year old adult with developmental disability. I am living in Cupertino CA. Thanks to Medicaid and help from San Andreas Regional Center, I have been able to live on my own in a small apartment and also work in a cafe. None of these would have been possible if I did not have health insurance through Medicaid and at home help (Independent Living Service) from San Andreas Regional Center. If funding is reduced from these organizations, I will not be able to survive. I am pleading with you to make sure that the funding for Medicaid and San Andreas are not cut. There are many individuals with developmental disabilities that are in the same situation and they depend on these services for survival.

Sincerely,

Sepideh Vahdat

Name

Cupertino, Santa Clara County

City or County

95014

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Through Medicaid my son and I can afford medications. Due to his disability, he will not be able to obtain a job which would provide the same benefits as Medicaid. Thanks to Medicaid, he is able to continue with the services to provide him a better life quality.

Sincerely,

Angelica Valadez

Name

Chula Vista, San Diego County

City or County

91911

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/21/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is very important for me. I have Autism and it's very hard for me to understand people because I'm very literal. I can't drive because I can't pass the tests. I can't get a job without help with the application and with learning what they want me to do with a job coach. My body wants to, but my brain doesn't go with my body right. I have to have help with my meals and with my housing so I can not be homeless or helpless. I try very hard. I have to be helped with safety in the community because people can take advantage of me too easy. I wouldn't have any doctors or medicine if I didn't have my Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Christian Valdez

Name

Fullerton, Orange County

City or County

92833

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6-21-2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE DON'T TAKE A RE MED-CALD FROM US
BECAUSE WE NEEDS IT
PLEASE DO NOT TAKE OUR CARE

THANK YOU

Sincerely,

WILIE

Name

MANTECA, CA.

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

The loss of the services provided for individuals and their family to maintain th community base services will create financial devastation to these individuals and their family - will no access to basic necessities to live with food, shelter, access to medical care and provided DME that individuals who already suffer so much and have so little in life. The impact I so great that it is going to result in many individuals to be homeless or high risk for suicide .. these individual have extreme disabilities the impact is so grave it is shocking that are government representatives go after the elderly and disabled... What is th country going to come - third world conditions - can you live with the decisions or turn a blind eye and act like it does not matter...

Sincerely,

Charmaine Van heyn

Name

Foothill Ranch, Orange County

City or County

92610

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/29/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

In my current employment position, I have been charged with the duty of advocating for individuals that are involved in the criminal justice system and require lengthy timeframe in the hope of resolving their cases in such a way that provided the individual and the community at large successful outcomes. As we all know, individuals in general with disabilities and especially developmental disabilities are at much higher risk of being taken advantage of and being victimized. If the proposed reductions to Medicaid are approved and take place, this will directly impact my purpose it the abovementioned that will result in the individuals that require the most help, continued victimization due to lack of resources through these cuts. Medicaid funding is what makes my job possible through The Department of Developmental Services and there is no other source of this kind of support available to this population in the judicial system. Additionally, there is no other available option for help for this population and so it will leave them very vulnerable and just the thought of these cuts make me feel like our legislators are not educated on the direct impact to individuals with disabilities. If they had this knowledge and awareness, the cuts would never take place. There is such a disconnect and the proposed cuts needs to be looked at closely and reconsidered in a way that does not effect this population.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alex Vargas

Name

Culver City, Los Angeles County

City or County

90230

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/29/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

In my current employment position, I have been charged with the duty of advocating for individuals that are involved in the criminal justice system and require lengthy timeframe in the hope of resolving their cases in such a way that provided the individual and the community at large successful outcomes. As we all know, individuals in general with disabilities and especially developmental disabilities are at much higher risk of being taken advantage of and being victimized. If the proposed reductions to Medicaid are approved and take place, this will directly impact my purpose it the abovementioned that will result in the individuals that require the most help, continued victimization due to lack of resources through these cuts. Medicaid funding is what makes my job possible through The Department of Developmental Services and there is no other source of this kind of support available to this population in the judicial system. Additionally, there is no other available option for help for this population and so it will leave them very vulnerable and just the thought of these cuts make me feel like our legislators are not educated on the direct impact to individuals with disabilities. If they had this knowledge and awareness, the cuts would never take place. There is such a disconnect and the proposed cuts needs to be looked at closely and reconsidered in a way that does not effect this population.

Sincerely,

Alex Vargas

Name

Culver City, Los Angeles County

City or County

90230

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I was born with palsy. I will Die with cerebral palsy. Being a person with a disability does not automatically mean that I will have a life that is not worth living or filled with joy but, when support systems like in-home support services and my Medi-Cal Medicare are directly affected that does affect my quality-of-life. It says not only to me but others like me that I'm not a sound investment, that I do not contribute enough to society to be kept alive. I work 40 hours a week at a nonprofit organization helping youth with disabilities on the weekends I donate my time to LGBTQ issues and youth. The amount of good that I put in the world is to record possible the fact that I am somebody who can pay for my wheelchair and that I could pay an attendant through in-home support services to help me do things that I cannot do on my own. I am creating jobs and connecting people to resources. Even if I wasn't doing all the amazing things and doing my life still has value of people with disabilities should be abandoned to slowly die from lack of care and resources.

The bottom line is that these services to create a lazier generation of people that are reliant on them for fun or ease. They help enable and empower people disabilities. They help us become a part of our community and touch the lives of people around us, they help us break down barriers and stereotypes. What people with disabilities give in exchange for these services may not in many cases be fiscally measurable but, that's only because they are invaluable

Sincerely,

Yolanda Vargas

Name

Rancho Cordova, Sacramento County

City or County

95670

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



July 22, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

To all the Senators who are voting on the future of health care for ~~all~~ Americans -
Make America Great - Healthy Americans

My 30-year old son has Down Syndrome. He has received excellent health care and has been involved in supportive programs funded by medicaid. Through excellent public education, he is now a full, tax-paying member of his community - he works two jobs. Do not decrease funding for our most vulnerable citizens in order to fund the military contractors

We say "no" to ACA Repeal - Vote NO

Sincerely,

Catherine Varman

Name

Berkeley CA

City or County

94707

Zip Code

Represent Americans,
Not Special Interests
of Insurance
Companies and
Big Pharma

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I received SSI and Medical for my medical needs. I live with my parents and they take care of me, take me to my doctors and make sure I am in good health. I have autism and without my medical, I would not be able to go to my doctors when I need them or see specialists. The Regional Center of OC helps me with my needs. Without the Regional Center, I wouldn't be able to do the things I enjoy or have a good life. Please make sure there is funding for them and Medical for all people that need it and so they can live healthy lives too. Thank you.

Sincerely,

COLLIN VARNEY

Name

San Clemente, Orange County

City or County

92672

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



5/17/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the mother of a son who is on the autism spectrum. Even though my husband and I are strong advocates for his needs, we are acutely aware of the Medicaid funding that contributes to his quality of life. Due to his behavioral patterns, he now lives in a Community Options Inc home where is learning to be more independent and care for his needs. He spends week ends with us and we constantly see the big changes in his personality, health, general happiness and ability to function in the community. He also attends an Adult Day Program, Escuela Del Rio in Atascadero near his home and we are so appreciative of the competent caring staff there making a continual difference in our son's ability to function in social situations and volunteer in the community; again, this is funded through Regional Center and Medicaid. I share this because I know how very vital Medicaid funding in our son's life and he lives of others with developmental disabilities. If they did not have this support, they would be in much more restrictive settings at a much much greater cost. Please do not cut Medicaid funding to the developmental disabled population.

Sincerely,

Ruth Vasconcellos

Name

Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County

City or County

93442

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



June 25, 2017

Date

Dear Congressional Members,

Thank you for your public service and the opportunity to be heard through this letter. My family is your constituents and resides in the rural part of Arroyo Grande California. My Congressman is Salud Carbajal.

My name is Andrea Vergne, and I am my adopted grandchild's lifeline to his everyday necessity's for Survival of life his name is Cade.

I am a Citizen to the United States, a single parent of two (2). Cade is conserved and has an Ultra-Rare Genetic Disease. He is now 19 and requires specialized services for his quality of life and education.

As a Congress Member you are a public servant in Capital Hill and represent more than 30 million vulnerable Americans that are born with a Genetic Disease and we stand in opposition.

Your "No vote" is needed for this population of 30 million vulnerable Americans.

Today, the Congressional Budget Office released its score of the BCRA estimating that between 2017-2026 the US should expect a cumulative deficit reduction of \$321 billion and an increase in the number of uninsured by 22 million.

This will impact me as a single parent of two (2) and leaves behind too many Latinos and fellow Americans as myself to effectively care for our loved ones as caregivers. The severe cuts to Medicaid, our national social health care program that covers 20 million Americans. 25% of all Medicaid recipients reside in California where I live, and are covered under the State's program Medi-Cal which includes 7.3 million Latinos. Protecting Medicaid access is protecting Latino health care and health care for our individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

In closing, I oppose the 2017 Affordable Care Act and know you are going to do the right thing. If called to testify in Capital Hill I will happily do so.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Vergne, Parent
Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, 93420
[REDACTED]

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

As Director of the independent living Center of So. Ca. We work with 5 thousand persons with disability a year that are 99% on Medical.

Medical means that the person not only receives medical services they receive a chance to live, work, and contribute to society. It is life changing when we help a person leave a hospital setting after long term illness and have a home to go to. A family to reunite with, an assistant to help, training to finish that which you never had a chance to accomplish. We have had people return to the community to go back to collage after a traumatic head injury, and now has a job, and enjoying life, and medical will be paid back in more than one way .

Sincerely,

Norma Jean Vescovo

Name

Van Nuys, Los Angeles County

City or County

91401

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am 63 years old and have a lifelong disability. I use a motorized wheelchair for all my mobility needs. I receive In-Home Support Services funded by Medi-Cal which pays for my personal care attendants on monthly basis. Without these funds I would not be able to get in and out of bed, get dressed and undressed. Use the bathroom and take a shower. The care that my attendants provide is essential for me to stay healthy and is independent as possible. It is quite likely that without the support my health would deteriorate to the point where I would be placed in a facility. The cost of this would be 10 times or greater than the cost of maintaining my support services to live at home in my community.

Sincerely,

Valerie Vivona

Name

Emeryville, Alameda County

City or County

94608

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have a 14 year old son who has fragile x and has mod/sever autism he often get sick from a low functioning immune system which causes him to be at home a lot of the time it makes it very hard to be a single mother of a child that needs constant supervision and constant care with out Medicaid and lhss my son would not have the adequate care and would not be able to remain in the home with me he needs 24 hour supervision with out lhss I could not provide that type of care. Please do not go forward with huge cuts to Medicaid it would drastically change our lives and the lives of all disabled people and their caregivers.

Sincerely,

Teresa Wallace

Name

Santa Ana, Orange County

City or County

92703

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My mother had a stroke 3 months ago. She is 82 and was very vibrant and active. She entertained seniors 3x/week at her house, helped other seniors with language deficits, went ballroom dancing 2x/week. She and my father owned 2 trend jewelry stores in Manhattan and paid taxes all their life. They worked 6 days a week and never went on vacation. They worked their way out of lower class to get to middle class never asking the government for any additional help except now when they are

She had no history of higher blood pressure, very good blood work and cholesterol. It was a fluke and to this day doctors say they do not know why she had it.

Doctors are recommending 24/7 care for her. She just had a feeding tube removed. She has mostly cognitive deficits where she is confused or can't name things appropriately or recognize things.

Suddenly we are needing to pay for round the clock aides and a retirement home where there are doctors downstairs to make house calls. It will cost us \$5000 a month. Medicare insurance wants to cut off her speech therapy and she has still has a long way to go to get back to normal. Stroke patients make the most recovery in the first year after their stroke.

We will be applying for Medicaid this month bc we can't afford the sudden additional expenses on top of her usual living expenses.

Most people wouldn't be able to. Where is the safety net in society? They paid taxes all their life and now in her hour of need, you abandon her.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



That is not a civilized society, one that doesn't take care of their old, sick, disabled, poor.

They say people who feel needed and useful in society live longer. Wouldn't you want your mother to recouperate optimally and live longer? Would you turn your back on your mother? Because when you gut Medicaid that's what you are doing, turning your back on millions of mothers, children etc.

Please do not gut these programs which peopel really need!

Sincerely,

Lisa Wang

Name

Millbrae, San Mateo County

City or County

94030

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



Terrell 6-21-17
Date

To whom it may concern,

PLEASE SOW TAKE ME DOWN
AWAY FROM US

Sincerely,

Terrell Warren

Name
Main Teca ca

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My daughter Shannon was born with cerebral palsy and developmental delay. About 6 years ago she had some serious health problems requiring many abdominal surgeries. Because of this, she is now also diagnosed with short bowel syndrome and is IV dependent. Shannon has had other surgeries which were mostly due to orthopedic problems caused by having cerebral palsy. Fortunately she is a very strong girl and is now in good health, though she does continue to require constant medical care to keep her healthy.

Now I've told you a little about her medical needs, but Shannon is much more than just a medical case. She is my daughter, she is her brothers sister, she is a friend to her classmates at school and she is a community member. To get a clear picture of Shannon you need to know that she is a person with likes and dislikes just like everyone else. For instance, she loves to swim, she loves heavy metal music (Slayer and Metallica are her favorite bands) and she loves going to the farmers market each Saturday, just to name a few things. Even though she is non-verbal, you will know if she is happy or upset, if she is tired or bored. The point I am trying to make is that she is a person just like all of us and she deserves to live a full life in her community with her family. Without Medicaid this would not be possible. Shannon is a client of a regional center and gets many services to make life at home possible. She also receives In Home Support Services for her care. Thankfully her medical coverage is through Medicaid and she has no delectable, no maximum benefit amount, and no clause on preexisting conditions. All of these keep her alive, for without these supports she would not be here.

My daughter Shannon is a beautiful girl with a smile that will melt your heart. Hopefully her story can make a difference because Shannon, and so many like her, deserve to live a fulfilling life in their community with the supports needed to keep them healthy and happy.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Sandra Waterbury

Name

Camarillo, Ventura County

City or County

93010

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

From: Brendan Webster [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 8:43 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters to Me

Dear Council Members,

I have been working in the California Regional Center system as a vendor providing Early Intervention services to at-risk infants. For more than 25 years I have seen countless children enter my program with delays in all skill areas, and disabilities which will plague them for their lives, if left untreated. The vast majority of these children make considerable improvement, making an average of almost 2 months' gain in one months' time, which means that with treatment they will catch up with their typical peers,. Reducing Medicaid, with its substantial allotment to Regional Centers will negatively impact such children,, creating a greater burden on the taxpayer and the State of California for years to come as they continue to grow up without the life course change implemented by early and intensive programs such as mine.

Brendan O'Connor Webster, M.A., CCC, BCS-CL

Speech/Language Pathologist, License #3224
Board Certified Specialist in Child Language
CEO, Center for Speech, Language and Occupational Therapy, Inc.
Board President, Yikes Tikes!
Los Altos, Fremont, San Jose, CA
[REDACTED]

The information contained in this transmittal may be confidential. It is intended only for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee, or agent responsible to deliver the transmittal to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that the use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmittal in error, please notify the sender immediately.



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am the mother of one child, a thirty year old adult with autism. I am retired from my 40+ year career in healthcare and public health. My husband is able and still working at this time in a professional career. We have carefully managed and invested our money through the years. While not in the top income brackets, we are not poor. However, our future is heavily dependent upon wise decisions made at the Federal and State level regarding the economy and how tax dollars are spent. Our assets could dwindle quickly, depending. In order for us to provide for ourselves as our needs change with increasing age AND leave enough to help provide for our son who is not able to be economically independent, all three of us are dependent upon Medicaid dollars (as well as other public benefits that our son is eligible for) to help us make it.

Our son's healthcare needs are not great. They probably are similar to non-autism adults his age so the Medicaid healthcare expenditures here are not great. However, the services and supports that he needs to lead a life with a minimum of success rely upon Federal Medicaid funding to help provide them. He receives supported living services, day program support, and employment support. He is able to work 12 hours per week. Along with the SSI he receives, he survives on approximately \$1,000/month. This of course wouldn't be possible without a Section 8 Housing voucher. So, Medicaid dollars, SSI, HUD, State dollars, and perhaps other pots in the complex array of resources are needed to make this work. Instability or reduction in any one pot has significant negative consequences. Because Medicaid dollars make support possible, this may be the most important pot. Our elected officials must understand the impact of reducing Medicaid funding on services, not just healthcare, for the developmentally disabled. Elected officials must be held accountable and not disregard this population as if they did not matter or exist.

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Sincerely,

Deborah Wechsler

Name

Aptos, Santa Cruz County

City or County

95003

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



7/17/17

Date

To whom it may concern,

TO Senator Barbara Lee or ^{House} the representative
 IF the trump administration cuts
 the medicals/medicaid or other
 social programs my friend Lisa will
 be severely affected and she simply
 wouldnt be able to live a quality
 of life she enjoys now. Shes a
 good friend of mine and she
 would barely be able to even
 survive so please you do not have
 to cut social services programs, thanks
 for your consideration in this matter,
 Thanks Grant

Sincerely,

Grant Weeks

Name

CONSTRAN CONTRASTA

City or County

94708

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/24/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid is a vital component of care for our severely disabled son William. He has a cognitive disability, hearing loss, and ADHD; among other things. He cannot live on his own because he requires help with the activities of daily living. IHSS and Protective Services through Medicaid allow us to give William the care he needs at home without requiring us to bear crippling expenses, and at a fraction of the cost to the government of having to care for someone with William's needs in institutional facility. Please consider how funding for the severely disabled in this way is actually a cost savings, and is the right thing to do for our vulnerable citizens if we are a truly good "nation."

Sincerely,

Matt Weidler

Name

Brea, Orange County

City or County

92821

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/6/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

How has Medi-Cal benefited me in my life?

I don't have to pay for my extremely expensive medications because of Medi-Cal
I get free of cost dental cleanings every 6 months because of Dental-Cal
I have the great opportunity to live independently in my own apartment because I
get support services from Westside Regional Center
Independent Living Skills Agency
Specialized Support Team
I also receive IHSS through Med-Cal too
Job Coaching Services
Nutritional Counseling
Psychological Services
Also, because I am Medi/Medi, I don't have to pay anything for medical visits via
doctor's office or the ER, etc.

Sincerely,

Kecia Weller

Name

Santa Monica, Los Angeles County

City or County

90403

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Carole Patterson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:38 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Medicaid

My name is Cindy White. I live in Cathedral City in Riverside county California. I am a in home care provider for my daughter Katie White, who has Down Syndrome with psychotic episodes. We are dependent on medicaid as my daughter needs medication for her mental illness and requires 24 hour supervision. Katie hears voices that tell her to harm herself, if left alone has wondered out of house. I had to quit my job you take care of her thru in home care, that is our income. We have no family that can help us, her father passed away and her brother has a family of his own in Orange County. She is dependent on medicaid to survive. Mental health would suffer immensely without medicaid. This community deserves to live with their familys, be loved and have the best lives possible.

Thank you
Cindy White



July 22, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

Please continue services and funding of Medicaid as it really helps family and individuals in need of special services for their disabilities to grow and evolve in their life.

Sincerely,

Margaret White

Name

Sacramento

City or County

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/20/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid helps me with my doctors appointments, medication, and to live life to the fullest.

Sincerely,

Brannon Whitehead

Name

Modesto, Stanislaus County

City or County

95350

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7-14-2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I need to go to the dentist and the
doctor to stay healthy.
I have depression and a lot of
anxiety. Keep my transportation
to come to day programs.

Sincerely,

Kerstin Williams

Name

San Joaquin

City or County

95219

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



7/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son is 25 years old with 2 children of his own. He can not afford medical benefits offered through his employer he is low income so he has benefits through ACA. The other day he suffered a seizure fractured his nose and has a head injury. He has been seizure free for 18 years without the ACA covering his pre existing condition he would have several thousands of dollars in medical cost that he would be unable to pay and the added stress that comes from overwhelming medical bills. He has stated that if he wasn't covered he would not seek treatment in the future due to the cost. 1 in 1,000 people die each year from seizures as a mother and grandmother this is unacceptable I have benefits through my employer that he could be covered under until age 26 however the cost of that coverage is over half my salary. We need to fix our healthcare system so everyone can have access to affordable quality care.

Sincerely,

Michelle Williams

Name

Vallejo, Solano County

City or County

94591

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



7/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son was diagnosed with autism at an early age. Early intervention played a huge role in his development. A lot of these interventions would not have been possible without Medicaid. These services have helped and will continue to help him be a productive member of society.

I want other families to have the same services options that my son had. It makes a difference.

Sincerely,

Arlitha Williams-Harmon

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90043

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Our adopted son (adopted @ 8 months), was a drug & alcohol exposed infant that was immediately awarded to the state at birth. He since then has suffered many ongoing issues. At the age 19, he has the mental status of a approximately a 13 year old and we do not how much older his mental state will grow. He has been a diagnosed with autism, bipolar, club feet, adhd and mood disorder. He is on multiple medications to function throughout the day. He will need assistance for the rest of his life. The impact of losing this assistance would be horrific for our son. CVRC has helped our son since he was 6 months old. To lose this would be a terrible blow to our son's life.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Diana Wimp

Name

Visalia, Tulare County

City or County

93291

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



June 8, 2017
Date

To whom it may concern,

I currently receive Medi-Cal. I receive services for my health. Without Medi-Cal, I would have to decide whether to pay or receive health services. I am low income and I can't afford my medications and treatments. Please let us keep Medi-Cal. Medi-Cal is crucial to my life. Without it, I won't live long. Medi-Cal help make my life easier and with good health.

Sincerely,

Wesley Witherspoon

Name

Los Angeles

City or County

90301

Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My 22 year old son with CP and intellectual disabilities has received community-based Medicaid services for most of his life, and he is now part of a community-based day program where he volunteers throughout the area, from delivering meals-on-wheels to working in a nonprofit's thrift shop. Adults like him used to live in segregated state hospitals--how much better, and cheaper to have him living in our community, thanks to Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wolf

Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90035

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I'm the partially-disabled 63-year-old mother of two wonderful young adults with moderate to severe developmental disabilities. I would not be able to keep them home with me without Medicaid, which I understand helps fund In Home Supportive Services (IHSS). My IHSS workers help keep my kids safe and help with personal care from making meals to washing clothes to showering. My children also have Medi-Cal as secondary health insurance, which helps me with co-pays for medications for them which would otherwise be unaffordable. They are thriving at home and to be forced to place them in group homes would be detrimental to them and to our family, and would also be more expensive to our government than the Medicaid services they currently utilize.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wolfson

Name

Carlsbad, San Diego County

City or County

92011

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Please do not cut funding for Medicaid. My son is 24 and lives in a group home for individuals who need help with daily living skills such as eating, dressing, showering and daily hygiene. He cannot live at home since we, his parents, are aging and still have to work. He received prescription drugs to help control seizures. He attends a daily program for adults with disabilities. He will need services for the rest of his life. Please do not cut funding which will result in reduced care in all regards for his life. He relies on funding to meet his most basic needs.

Sincerely,

Dale Wood

Name

San Juan Capistrano, Orange County

City or County

92675

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/22/17
Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid has been essential to the health + welfare of my 17 year old son, who lives with the effects of Down Syndrome. Medicaid began covering health services at the time of his birth ~~when he~~ because he was born prematurely with significant health issues that required 3 weeks in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit. Since then, he has seen many specialists and had procedures that were covered by Medicaid. I urge you to continue to fund + expand the Medicaid programs for the benefit of all who need it.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Woodall
Name
Placer
City or County
95603
Zip Code

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Medicaid helps my daughter get therapy (OT, PT, BT & Spch) which allows her to become the best possible version of herself. Therapy in her now in her youth makes her a possitive contributor to society.

Sincerely,

Breanna Woolf

Name

Huntington Beach, Orange County

City or County

92646

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·



7/27/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Through the Central Valley Regional Center in Fresno, my autistic son has been able to receive behavioral therapy that otherwise would be an impossibility for us to afford. Since becoming a Regional Center client and getting the very necessary therapy, he has raised his grades from Fs to Cs & Bs. And he has done it as a mainstreamed student. But, there is still so much more work to do. He still doesn't know how to socialize, his language is difficult to understand and his tantrums are terrifying. Without the therapy provided through Medicaid money, all the progress will be lost. Please, please don't give up on Joshua.

Sincerely,

Thomas Woolley

Name

Fresno, Fresno County

City or County

93704

Zip Code



California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/1/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My son's life is totally depending on Medicaid. He has brain injury and uses a wheelchair. He has trach and G-tube. Thanks to the nursing services, IHSS, Regional Center's respite services and medications that Medicaid has been funding, my son can stay at home with his family and lead a life as normal as possible. If there is no Medicaid, I cannot afford to pay those services he receives, and he needs to live in an institution.

Sincerely,

Kanae Yamada

Name

Pasadena, Los Angeles County

City or County

91107

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

3/2017

Dear Doris Matsui,

my school is a public school and they help kids of all abilities. I love my school and teachers please protect public education. thank you!

my Grandma had surgery for her leg and Grandpa ~~was~~ ^{was} not of been able ~~to~~ ^{to} walk with out A CANE ~~and~~ ^{and} I can walk, play and sing with her.

Trump is rde to people by building a wall and I don't want a bad leader that has sons who hunt animals for no reason!

I am lucky to have a woman like you as my congresswoman. Thank you for helping us by working so hard.

From, Rikyeates

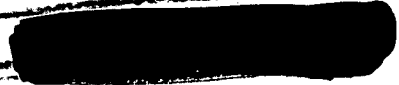
2nd Grader at
Lighthouse Charter
School. 2408

meadowlark
Crickle West
Sacramento
to California

95-6-91



This is me (center) and my 2nd grade friends at Lighthouse Charter, my Public School in West Sacramento





5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

I am appealing to you to uphold Medicaid/MediCal coverage for Californians, especially the disabled individuals. MediCal coverage is critical for the health and well being of the disabled children, youth and adults. I am a mother of a 29 years old Down Syndrome daughter who has been receiving Regional Center services since birth. With early intervention services, occupational therapies and speech therapies, she was able to learn and grow both physically and cognitively beyond other's expectation and able to go into full-inclusion programs for her elementary through high school education. Regional Center services continue to provide support for her transition into adulthood and enable her to receive employment training, internship and eventually into competitive employment. These services under Medicaid are all critical to enable her and others like her to be independent, thriving and productive citizens.

In addition, though we had private medical insurance from work, it would not have been enough to cover all of the additional surgery expenses my daughter during her early years. In addition, it is well known that Down Syndrome individuals tend to age earlier than the general population, and medical problems such as Dementia or Alzheimer's disease, will increase earlier in their lives. Now since my husband and I are from the baby boomer generation, we are both currently retired with limited financial resources. It will be impossible to ensure health and welfare for our children without Medicaid coverage. We need your help to repeal the cut on Medicaid coverage, that my daughter and others like her can remain productive citizens in the community through Medicaid supported services and will not ended up in expensive institutions.

Sincerely,

Vanda Yung

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



Name

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

City or County

90064

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov • email • council@scdd.ca.gov • 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 •



6/26/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Kevin's story, by his father. Kevin was born with a disability. It was not his fault. He was given up for adoption. Some time after we adopted him, we were advised to place him in an institution because he was deemed to be non-educable and could never be a functioning member of society. He is now living independently in a rented apartment. He was just awarded his 25 year service pin where he works, with the assistance provided by Medicaid-related programs. Medicaid (Medi-Cal) has helped him maintain his independence and improve his quality of life. He would not be able to have the life he has without the assistance of Medicaid. Due to his advances, Kevin requires much less assistance than many of his friends and peers. Even so, the high cost of medical care and services would be a crippling blow to him.

Sincerely,

Kevin Yunker

Name

Orange, Orange County

City or County

92866

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



6/25/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

In 2006 I became pregnant for the third time. Excitedly, my husband and I went together to all of our prenatal appointments including the twelve week one when they take your first trimester screen test. Never a thought or a worry that the test would come back negative, we laughed and talked about how this child will be compared to their siblings. As the doctor walked in I sensed right away there was nothing to laugh about that day. We were delivered the news that our unborn child is most likely going to be born with Down syndrome. After the amniocentesis, which confirmed that our child did indeed have Down syndrome, we prepared ourselves for an unknown future we were about to journey into with our eleven year old daughter and five year old son in tow.

Present day, we have a Republican President and the House and Senate are mostly Republicans. Citizens of the United States vote Republican because they do not believe in abortion and hope to one day turn over Roe vs. Wade. Yet, now that they have control of the United States with their creed of every life counts, they are taking away the very program that helps continue that life after they are born. We cannot forget that once the children with all different kinds of disabilities are born they have double the medical needs than their typical peers for the rest of their lives!

As a stay at home mother, because my son was getting so sick at his public school every year contracting every virus possible; which sent him to the emergency room many nights with his airways closing on him as he was turning blue, I homeschool my son. I actually had to have PTSD therapy because of experiencing my son's inability to breath, which I would never wish upon any parent, due to a virus that most of his typical peers and siblings could overcome. Being able to rush him to the emergency and have them administer Prednisone, a common steroid, so that his brain is not affected by the lack of oxygen he is not able to get at that

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



moment.

We are now a one income family because of my son's medical needs, trying to make ends meet. If it wasn't for IHSS we would not be able to provide my son with the care and programs needed in order for him to become a contributing tax paying citizen of the United States of America. Everyday it is my mission to help my son live a life with purpose and help make this world a little better because of him. Allow me to continue raising my son by not taking away the very important entity, Medicaid, that will provide independence for our son, a citizen of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Zabala

Name

Rancho Santa Margarita, Orange County

City or County

92688

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/3/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

My only child was diagnosed with his disability when 2 yo. He was living in his own world , quiet and withdrawn , never reaching for anyone not even his mom . He was too weak to walk or play , won't say a word and hardly ate . When I called Regional Center they immediately sent people to check on him. They gave him services he requires . After years of service my once withdrawn son , graduated from physical therapy and he started paying attention , reaching to us to play with him , started going school , enjoyed being around people . Because of respite service I can take a break and take care of my other house needs and children .He always has a big smile in his face , loves going to park and outings . Now I can hope he can be a contributing citizen , full of empathy and care for others . I am indebted to regional center and state for providing these service for my child and helped him from becoming a burden for the society.

Sincerely,

Anila Zafar

Name

Altadena, Los Angeles County

City or County

91001

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**



5/2/2017

Date

To whom it may concern,

Because of ACA and Medical-Medicaid my son is receiving appropriate services. He is 14 years old. Danny has Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Epilepsy and an Immune system Deficiency. Without the ACA services will be very difficult for Danny to live an independent life, be part of his community. Because of the Speech and Language therapy Danny's communication is more functional and he can ask for help now. Because of the medical care he needs without the ACA will be very difficult to get and Danny can have severe consequences. PLEASE DO NOT REPEALED OR REPLACE ACA.

Sincerely,

Blanca Zambrano

Name

Santa Ana, Orange County

City or County

92707

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

· website · www.scdd.ca.gov · email · council@scdd.ca.gov · 1507 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ·

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:38 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: From Camping Unlimited for Children and Adult with Disabilities

Hello, our non-profit program in the East Bay of Northern California serves thousands of children and adults who have developmental disabilities such as Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Autism and other significant challenges. Some families are fortunate to have health care, but many would be in dire situations if they were not able to count on Medicaid to help pay for hospital care, doctor's visits and prescription drugs. Many are low-income families of all races and ethnicities. Without Medicaid they could lose their homes or not afford to pay rent let alone feed themselves, or their children.

Other clients that we serve are older adults. They live in group homes or facilities away from their families. Mostly all have Medicaid because they can no longer be covered by their parents or families. Without Medicaid, they would be medically neglected, not able to pay for much needed preventative care, doctor's visits, hospital or critical care.

It would be a GRAVE injustice for innumerable families across California let alone all other areas of the United States to be excluded from their only source of health care. I don't know anyone who could knowingly take away benefits from such deserving people.

***What if it were your disabled brother, sister or child?
Please do what is morally right.***

Thank you,
Gail Zigenis
El Sobrante, California
Contra Costa California

Five bullets. Five bullets from my father's gun killed my brother and propelled me into a life of disability. Without Medicaid, I would not have the electric wheelchair that allows me to get around and even to work. Without the help of Medicaid, I wouldn't have been able to immerse myself in a year-long course on post traumatic stress disorder that showed me how to release my terror and anger about my father's murder suicide attack and move forward with a sense of peace and hope. Without Medicaid, I could not have afforded the care homes that helped me learn basic skills and readjust to the world.

Bad things often happen to innocent people. I was only five years old when my dad shot my three-year old brother and me while we slept, killed my nine-year old brother, then turned the gun on himself. A neurologically normal, healthy child until that moment, I had no knowledge of disabilities. After the attack, I went through 26 surgeries to remove the bullet in my head and the one in my spine, and try to repair some of the neurological damage caused by the attack. The nightmares stayed with me for years, and I struggled to do basic tasks to take care of myself.

Medicaid helped me live in a care home for a time, where I learned basic self-care tasks, talked through my anxiety and even learned how to budget and pay my own bills. Now Medicaid, through the regional center, helped me get a job and transports me to that job. I need to work to help cover some of my basic bills that my SSDI doesn't cover. I'm now able to be productive and earn enough to survive and sometimes even go to coffee or a movie with a friend. I know that having something so terrible and unusual happen to me as a child means that I will never live a normal life. But Medicaid helps me to have a roof over my head, food, electricity and a little bit of money to see friends and experience some joy, as well.

Larry Zipprian


Medi-Cal and Alta Regional Center Client

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: liliana luna serret [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 2:51 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid matters to me

My name is Liliana Alvarado and I am married and have four boys. I used to work for the state and had good medical and dental benefits. My two oldest twin boys were born prematurely and diagnosed with both physical and mental disabilities. My two other boys are typical. Since my twins have the need of so much attention, physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy and behavioral therapy I had to quit my job to take care of them and to ensure that all of their medical and therapy needs were met. My husband is in his 50's, battling hypertension and diabetes, he is the head of the household and the benefits the company he works for offers are not necessarily affordable, if we consider the fees he would have to pay to have the entire family covered under the plan, the co-payments and the maximum allowance per year we definitely would not be able to afford it and still get quality medical services. We are very worried as we do not know what the future holds if our Medicaid benefits were to end or if we had to pay that we can't afford to ensure our family gets quality medical care.

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Jess Block Nerren [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 5:27 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Medicaid matters

Medi cal helped my child with autism survive cancer when he was diagnosed at age 8 and get the compassionate and comprehensive care he needed to be a child (who still deserves as much of a quality of life!) with a developmental disability and being asked to endure complex medical treatments and procedures. We wouldnt have been able to even begin to help him with his level of need without medi cal.

Sent from my iPhone

Jess Block Nerren
MA, Communications
[REDACTED]

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Sherry Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 11:49 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid matters to Me
Attachments: excipient-table-2.pdf; Screenshot_20170314-232542.jpg

My Name is Sherry Foster an 57 yr old USAF Veteran and an single mother with 2 sons on the autism spectrum, I became an care provider for IHSS back in 2013 for an high school classmate who needed assistance so I went to the orientations and got to meet some phenominal people who really need the important services that IHSS provides. My own healthcare is Medical my healthcare provider holds certification for alternative healthcare and the regular standard of care here in California! My health as a single parent is vital, my childrens father has been in arizona with double kidney failure since july 2015. It is important that I retain my health by nutrition and supplementation to reverse not only my thyroid condition but also my osteoarthritis! Healthcare does not cover the costs associated with natural healing, physicians are over burdened and not educated in vaccines or nutrition or going over the vaccine inserts and known side affects/efficacy of the vaccines. With the uprise of autism increasing fm the passage of sb277. The CDC Released the ingredients of vaccines are not safe. We need more physicians trained in these to adequately medically treat the kids effectively and naturally! neurotoxicity is running rampant in america fm vaccine damage please advocate for all hompathic healthcost to heal the children. All physicians: peditricians/general practitioner/family physicians are mandated to go over the vaccine inserts through instructions fm the manufacturer but rarely perform these actions and gives patients the vaccine information sheet does not give full disclosure of the efficacy of the ingredients and neurotoxicity of them. IHSS workers are the most underserved employees in California we dont have many benefits other than UDW representation, we don't accrue sick leave, vacation pay, overtime/doubletime/tripletime for federal state holidays that is mandated through the federal department of labor. We should not be mandated to become union members if we choose not to participate and pay monthly fees to see no benefit when the UDW Does not respond to help with little to no explanation of why we dont have these very important benefits!!! This program is vital for the elderly and disabled I know with my 2 sons will need these services and I will too eventually but until then I'll continue to be the best care provider I can be and advocate when I see something needs change and this program needs improvements a payraise would be nice havent had one in over 2 years!!

Sincerely,
Sherry Foster ♥

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Dawnelles [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 6:04 PM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Why Medicaid Matters To Me

Medicaid has truly been a blessing for our family, especially since we are raising two autistic children. Cutting the Medicaid program to Special Needs Families would be devastating. Families depend on Occupational Therapy, Speech Services, and ABA Therapy. Our family utilizes these services 5 days a week in two hour sessions. Our children would not be able to utilize these services if it wasn't for the Regional Centers and Medicaid. My children have flourished over these past two years due to these therapies. Medicaid (IHSS) has also helped our family financially, since I have been unable to obtain a job out of the household. I must care for my children on a 24 hour basis, since they have no safety awareness, they are unable to do Average Daily Living Skills, and I have to take them daily to multiple therapy sessions. Without Medicaid, we would not only be in a financial crisis, our children would also be unable to get the help they need and deserve. This would set them back from the progress they have already achieved, as well as the potential for their future. Please reconsider cutting back on these services for our special needs children. Thank you,
Dawnelle Jackson

Sent from my iPhone

Giovati, Bob@SCDD

From: Maria West [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:29 AM
To: council@scdd.ca.gov
Subject: Story about how Medicaid helps people with I/DD.

The following is a story I received from Lisa Schmidt, whose two adult children have I/DD and receive regional center services. Lisa told me last night that she wants to submit her family's story for Aaron to take to DC next week.

Thanks,
Maria West

**Regional Centers Have Been a Lifeline
for My Children.**

"I have two adult children with intellectual disabilities. My 32-year old son Joe has autism, and my 29-year old daughter Margaret has epilepsy and an intellectual disability. Medicaid paid services keep my children alive, healthy and working with a roof over their heads. If my daughter didn't have Medi-Cal, there is no way we could afford her doctor's care and medications for epilepsy. She used to have up to two seizures a week. Because of Medi-Cal, we were able to finally find the right doctor and the perfect combination of medications. Margaret has been seizure-free for five years. I no longer have to live holding my breath, listening to hear if she might have started to fall, worrying she could die from a head injury at any moment. The only reason that both of my children work is because regional centers have gotten them jobs and provided transportation to those jobs. The California Department of Rehab told my son that they would not be able to find him a job. He tried applying for jobs on his own, but did not get any interest. Now my son makes minimum wage in integrated employment at a local company through a work services program paid for by the regional center. My daughter works in a sheltered workshop and has just moved to integrated employment in a group setting. Because their father is not in their lives anymore, and I struggle to find work that pays much more than minimum wage myself, our family would be homeless if my two children did not work. Regional Centers have been a lifeline for my children since they have been adults. They have given them jobs in which they have thrived. The worry of all parents of special kids is: "What will happen when I'm no longer here?" Because of the regional centers, paid for largely by Medicaid, I know that my children will not be homeless and lost when I'm not here to protect them anymore. If the amount an individual can be helped by Medicaid is capped, I fear that after I'm gone, my children will be homeless and alone, with no one to watch over them."

- Lisa Schmidt, mother of regional center clients Joe and Margaret Sullivan
[REDACTED]



6/27/17

Date

To whom it may concern,

I have operated an ARF for Westside Regional Center for 20 years. Only since the ARM rate change, (07/01/16) have I been able to operate my business profitably. I provide residential services to Californians who are severely developmentally disabled and who are ENTITLED to live in the COMMUNITY. If the Senate passes the Mitch McConnell/Paul Ryan Bill, it will have a catastrophic affect on my residents and myself.

The CBO Report has been released as I write and it empirically specifies the deleterious impact it would have on California's disabled population and their vendored service providers.

The motivation and sole objective of this legislation is to fulfil the Republican Party and Donald Trump's goal of redistributing America's wealth exclusively to the rich. I feel this Bill and the legislative objectives of the current Republican administration are mendacious and morally corrupt.

I believe that the true author of the current policy of oppression is Mitch McConnell. President Trump is an incompetent fool, (you don't blame a skunk for stinking). Mitch McConnell is a racist. His announced, 2008 policy to make Obama a one term President" by means of 100% obstruction at a time of America's greatest financial crisis since 1929 was traitorous.

Sincerely,

Robert Woodyear

Name

Hawthorne, Los Angeles County

City or County

90250

Zip Code

California State Council on **Developmental Disabilities**

DATE: March 14, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I work with adults with disabilities. My clients/my friends need their insurance to pay for their many medical needs physically and mentally. To take away any resources from them will affect all areas of their life. Many cannot verbalize or be able to express on paper how much the medical program has helped and is helping them be all that they can be. For my friends not to have the things that medical provides is a sad and scary thought. When making any changes to our healthcare I ask that you remember our friends here at United Cerebral Palsy, Work, Inc.

Sincerely,

Virginia Hidalgo

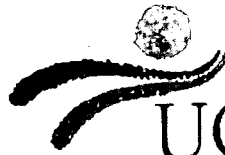
Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: March 17, 1978

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please check the status of my case and please advise me of the results. I hope you had this case sent to the appropriate person for help. Get my address of home 1115 Parkwood
Westview Falls Pa 15414 and let me know if you need any further information.
Sincerely,
[Signature]

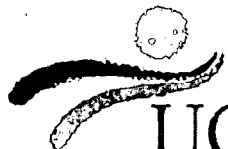
[Lined area for additional text]

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Name [Signature]

City Carlisle PA 17014
County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Kris Anderson, I live in
Guadalupe Ca. It would be devastating
to cut Medical/Medicare due to my
medical condition. The dr. visits and
medications are so being on a fixed income
makes it hard to pay. I am Diabetic.

Sincerely,
Kris Anderson

Name
Guadalupe

City
Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please don't take my funding away it helps cover for my doctors, specialists and prescriptions. It also covers for my in-home Support Services that I need greatly on my day to day life. Please think about how this will affect my ability to be healthy and live a happy life.

Sincerely,

Amanda Baird

Name

Lompoc

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

IT concerns me a whole lot.
Because I get seizures, and
need my meds for it & helmet, &
have a brace on my knee. And
I don't feel its right to take
are insurance & IHSS that we
need to stay independent. But
mostly our Medicaid, we can't
live without any of the above.

Sincerely,

Jeffery Lehmer

Name ~~Santa~~ Guadalupe

City Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE:

3/14/11

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

The reason I need my medicine is because
I have high blood pressure and sleep
disorders and depression, please I
have hypertension its very important
that I have my medica-cals. I can't
live without my medica-cals. Please
Billie cost a lot of money I have
three housemates and a T-5
worker to help me buy what I
need for my house. I can't
afford paying hospital bills.

So don't take away my meda-
cals. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Schramm

Sincerely,

Sarah Schramm

Name:

Adalupé

City:

Santa Barbara

County:



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

1500 West 1st Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

DATE: 3.14.17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Seeing that most of the people of California are from average or low income households, it truly is a great help to receive benefits that would give me the sense of acceptability

Sincerely,

nd' lbt

11207060



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

Name

Santa Maria, CA

City

Santa Barbara

County

DATE: March, 14, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

EVERYONE that receives help be it Medicaid or IHSS has their own story, how their services have benefited. There are many who rely on these services as part of their support. It's a great feeling to know that some stress is relieved in our daily life style. Just a few hours of IHSS help gives many a time for refreshment.

Sincerely,

Maria Herrera

Name _____
Santa Maria

City _____
Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: March 14, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Seeing Most of the people of California
are from average or low income
house holds. It truly is a great help to
receive benefits that would give me the
sense of acceptability.

Sincerely,

EDDIE MORRIS

Name Santa Maria

City Santa Barbara

County

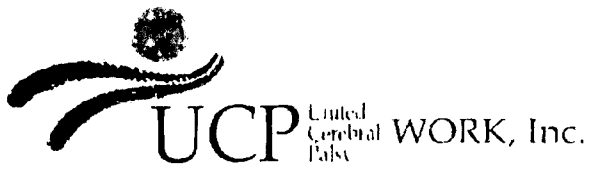


DATE: 3-14-17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My Name is Cheri I live with my Brother & wife. I have had Previous Strokes, Multiple Sclerosis Always suppose to be on Line of sight so with out I/SS OR Medicaid what I can I suppose to do. I want to be able to be able to do as much as I can P/2. Dnt Take are Medicaid OR ~~THSS.~~

Sincerely,
Cheri Stranc
Name Santa Maria
City Santa Barbara
County



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I emily E need my medical. it helps pay for my health & ~~medical~~ medical expenses health expenses without medical isn't affordable. I am a person with a disability and cant work.

Multiple horizontal lines for additional text.

Sincerely,
Emily E
Name Santa Maria
City Santa Barbara
County



DATE: MARCH 14.17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

POR NES SIA ILLON NESI ILO I MUCHA I ETMA
NE SEI TABA DE BICOR SO COM ILO NESI T MOS
I I POR FAO AR NO NO LOS S I T E LOS NEE STA
MOS UNA S O P O T V I D A D E M A S S E L O S P O I M O S
P O R F O R N O S A T R S L A I N T E I N O S A B M O S
K E A S E S I L A M D I N A I S U T E D P L A N E S E D A S
S E T N E M O S E T N E M C D E N O T R A B I R

Sincerely,

MALENE CAMACHO

Name Santa maria

City Santa barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: March 14 17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I Katie D need my medical. It helps pay for my health expenses. Health expenses without medical isn't affordable. Medical helps to make it affordable. I am a person with a disability and can't work.

Sincerely,

Katie D.

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

WORK, Inc.

DATE: MARCH 14 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I Rosie need my medical for my health
expense. I am a person with a disability
that cant work if theirs no job theirs no way
I can be able to pay for my health expense.

Sincerely,

Rosie

Name rosita maria

City san vic santa barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I need medical to go to
the doctor, medical pay for my medicines,
without medical I would ~~be~~ be able to go
to the doctor, I would ~~not~~ ^{not} be able to get
my medicines;

Sincerely,
Gary Bierbauer



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

Name
City Santa Maria
County Santa Barbara

DATE: 3/19/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Medical is important to me to get
my medicines and stuff like that. Don't
cut my paycheck on 99c. I need the
money to buy stuff to live. I live in a
house with other people. They help
me. I wash my clothes and have itch
in my stomach and y'know also
my head.

Sincerely,
Gonzalez Moody
Name) Santa Maria
City Santa Barbara
County



DATE: 3/14/2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I go to The Doctor
I they pay for doctor
I need to live ^{make} ~~live~~
I need medical

Sincerely,

STEVE GORDANSON

Name

Santa Barbara

City

SM

County



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

WORK, Inc.

DATE: March 4 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I Like to keep working Santa Maria
times crew. I like to work cleaning crew
Packing Packets, Deatelling crew.
Dentist to clean my teeth.
Doctors to pay medicare medical

Sincerely,

Steven Branda

Name

Santa Maria

City

California

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Kystal Marx

The medical helps me to my needs and is a need for me for the reason of my disabled I can not sustain my expenses and I depend on medical care I need.

That is why I beg you to take into account my situation of disability.

Sincerely,

Kystal Marx

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 14-20-17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

DEAR UCP WORK, Inc. Santa Maria Calif
Flo Jo Camba & Heren. Come Her Here Can For
Sal & Ben THE Family Donny Osmond & DFM & Teotia

Sincerely,

Name Florence Camba
City Santa Maria Calif.
County SANTA BARBARA



DATE: 3-14-2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Hi my name is Diane Smith and am a person with disabilities who has medicaid that helps me pay for my prescriptions & also helps me pay for my dr visits. If I don't have Medicaid I wouldn't be able to see the dr and get my prescriptions & also helps with my long support care

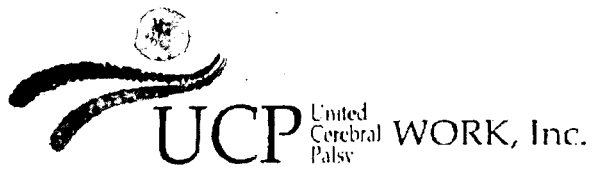
Sincerely,

Diane Smith

Name Santa Maria

City Santa Barbara

County



DATE: March 14, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

As the current Admin. Assistant of a Non-profit organization for the mental/physical disabled. I ask to keep the Medicaid program available for our California residents. I have worked from a personal level as a caregiver for 7 years. During these years I came to realize that our disabled clients have been given the opportunity to somehow become independent by having that small extra cash to provide with personal hygiene, food, and community activities. Cutting their Medicaid benefits will definitely make them focus a lot more on their disabilities instead of focusing on their strengths and other things they can accomplish. Their disability should never keep them from reaching their goals and the only way it can be that way is if they don't have to worry about bills that can run high when it comes to medical or cost of living.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Hernandez

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

Life without limits for people with disabilities.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

my name is Douglas Knight I live in Santa Maria, California. it is very important to me to keep my Medicaid funding going because it is very important for someone with medical issue or disabilities to be insured to stay healthy like me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Doug Knight

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3-14-17

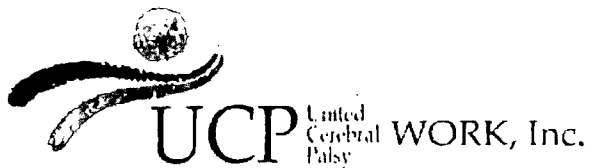
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

my name is Andrea Sanchez, I live in Santa Maria, California. I feel if you cut Medicaid/medical fund this would deeply effect me because of my health issues, I dont have money and I am on a budget and wouldnt be able to afford my Drs. Appoints or my medication which are needed for my survival.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Andrea Sanchez
City: Santa Maria
County: Santa Barbara



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Alma Farsund I live in Santa Maria California. It would be very devastating for the state to cut Medicaid funding because you wouldn't have a way to pay for my medical needs or medicines because of my health issues.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alma R Farsund

Name Santa Maria

City Santa Barbara

County



DATE: 3/14/11

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Phillip Sundeen I live in Santa Maria California, It is very important to me to keep my Medicaid funding going because I have Medicaid Insurance and with out my Insurance I wouldnt be able to afford seen a Dr. Dr. Have money to pay Medical bills. and provide medication for my survival.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Phillip Sundeen

Name

Phillip Sundeen

City

Santa Maria C.A.

County Santa Barbara



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Sheryl Thorup I live
in Santa Maria California. It is very
important to me to keep my Medicaid
funding going on because I will be able
to see my Dr. for regular checkups, provide
my medication. I am disabled can't work, and
with out my insurance I wouldn't be able
to survive.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Sheryl Thorup

Name

Sheryl Thorup

City

Santa Maria C.A

County

Santa Barbara



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Catalina Cardenas, It is very important to have Health insurance, for my medication and checkups to the Doctors I'm disable and can't work, I need to stay healthy. SO I don't ever go to the Hospital I need to have medicare Thank you

Sincerely,

Catalina Cardenas

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My Name is Ymke Swierstra, I have
Down Syndrome. I do also have seizures.
I need med. care. For my medications, Doctors
vis. t and other referrals. I was recently
in the hospital due to my asthma, and
d. fficult breathing. So I need my med. care
insurance. So please let us have insurance
to stay healthy

Sincerely,

Ymke Swierstra

Name Santa Maria

City Santa Barbara

County



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

my name is Charlene Hoch, I'm disable,
my health problem is having seizures, I wear
Cyberonic magnet on my wrist, I also have
narcolepsy which occurs during out the day
I need my medicare insurance for medications
Doctors, Hospital visit and Any other healthy issue
I have I need to checked monthly. Thankyou

Sincerely,

Charlene Hoch

Name

Santa maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name Jesus Esparza. I live in Orcutt
Ca. It would be devastating to cut
Medicaid/Medicare due to my disabilities.
I have trouble hearing. It would be
hard to pay for my Dr visits and any
medications I may need.

Sincerely,

Jesus

Name

Orcutt

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Central Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 8/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Stephanie Cantu. I live in Santa Maria Ca. It would be devastating to cut Medical/Medicare due to my disability. It would be hard to pay for my dr visits or any medication I may need

Sincerely,

STEPHANIE CANTU

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: March, 14 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

EVERYONE that receives help be it Medicaid or IHSS has their own story, how their services have benefited. There are many who rely on these services as part of their support. Its a great feeling to know that some stress is relived in our daily life style. Just a few hours of IHSS help gives many a time for refreshment.

Sincerely,

Maria Herrera

Name _____
Santa Maria

City _____
Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3.14.17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Seeing that most of the people of California are from average or low income households, it truly is a great help to receive benefits that would give me the sense of acceptability

Sincerely,

nd' 468 112 010 0650



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

Name

Santa Maria, CA

City

Santa Barbara

County

DATE: 3-14-17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please don't cut or take away medicare
for the individuals I work for. It helps
them greatly to keep them healthy and
function in society to the best of their
abilities. So please think about all the lives
you will effect if you do cut backs.

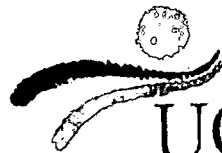
Sincerely,

Milley Cuellar

Name Santa Maria

City Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

We ask that you please keep Medicaid in California. Our individuals depend on that Medicaid it provides health coverage and funding for in-home Support Services (IHSS) for our individuals with disabilities, with it pays for care from their doctors, specialists, and hospitals. please think about the affect it will make for people with disabilities and their well being.

Sincerely,

Yvette Arnold

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/19/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Medicaid funds support the UCP program and the individuals that attend. If these funds are reduced or eliminated it may make it impossible for some persons to attend the program. For many people with disabilities this program is the only form of group social interaction. In a society of competition and technological advancement it is hard if not impossible for people with disabilities to find a place. UCP works to educate and offer creative activities and is valuable to the general health of society. We need to keep Medicaid and the UCP program.

Sincerely,

ALLISON HALL
Name
SANTA MARIA, CA
City
SANTA BARBARA
County

Michael Quinn-Jones



ANA LON

ANN HU

ANN HU

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Medical is good
for the clients in
placements so they
can see doctors when
they are sick and
they are hurt and
when need medical
for emergencies to
be seen right away.

Sincerely,

Damon Does
Name Damon Does
City



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

County

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I just wanted to take a minute
and explain why I think it would
be a bad idea to take away medical
from my clients they cannot help themselves
from here we offer them help and to help
them grow ~~we~~ they need help with medicine
and treatment if this is step who
will look after them my couple months
working at upc. I realized what our
purpose here is and to help the clients
and make sure they are safe we care
there families we are here for them
mentally emotionally and physically.

Sincerely,

Alexis Escobedo

Name

Santamaria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Karen Souza she is worried about
them taking medical away because
they help her with medicine and
give her the proper Percuzes. She
does not have anyone looking
after her only us.

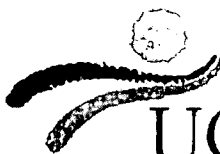
Sincerely,

Karen Mearance

Name Santa maria

City Santa barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please dont take away Medicaid it provides Health coverage, my I.H.S.S, As much aid 's help I need 'prescriptions, Hospitals, Drs As much of my aid 's help I need. Please do not take this aid away

Thank you

Sincerely,

Kay Broyles
Name

Santa Maria
City

Santa Barbara
County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Please do not stop medical
funding its vital for health, bills prescriptions
ect... We rely and depend on it.
Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,



Name John P.

City Santa Maria

County Santa Barbara



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

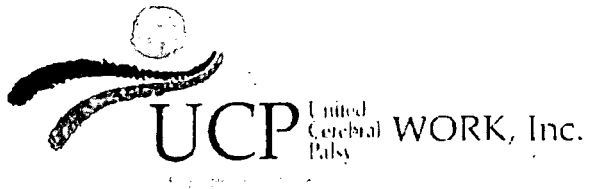
DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Brittany Wickham. I live in Santa Maria Ca I have Cerebral Palsy. It would be devastating to not have medical/Medicare. It would be hard to pay for my medical needs and medication.

Sincerely,

XG
Name Brittany
Santa Maria
City Santa Barbara
County



DATE: March 14th

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Dear Congress Medicaid helps pay for
Dental services and Doctors appointments
It concerns me cause I'M on Medicaid
and Medical. so I don't wanna
lose my insurance cards. so how do
people on Medical insurance keep their
prescriptions going? It concerns me
cause I'M on medical insurance and
I'M worried that I will lose my
insurance. Will congress pass the Bill
on Medicaid and Medical? Thank you
for your time and patience

Sincerely,

Kim Belknap
Name

City
Santa Maria
County California



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is AnnMarie McLomack, I work for a company named UCP WORK, Inc. We serve many people with different types of disabilities. A lot of the people, and staff who attend and work here rely on Medicaid for health care services as well as being able to attend day program. I myself rely on Medicaid for myself and children. I would not be able to afford health insurance or pay a doctor's visit if me or my children get sick. My four year old daughter attends therapy once a week, that Medicaid pays for. It is important that she continues therapy and if we lose our Medicaid she would lose out on the therapy she needs. I would not be able to pay thousands of dollars for an emergency hospital visit if there was an emergency. Please don't cut out Medicaid, it is too important to lots of people in America.

Sincerely,

AnnMarie McLomack

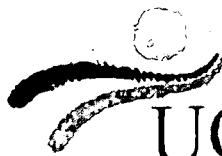
Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3-14-17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

These programs fund the UCP program and majority of the individuals that rely on these programs to be able to learn the social and work skills needed to be able to function properly in society. The funding used to help these individuals is greatly needed to keep them healthy and correctly medicated. When asked how these programs getting stopped are drastically lowered would affect them their responses were "I would be very sad" "I'd feel sad/mad".

Sincerely,

Smilha Macias, Greg Dentley
Name
Santa Maria
City
Santa Barbara
County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

Tony Macias Bridgette Hixson, MEd, MEd

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I count on Medicaid for health care for J. MISS Hospital, bills ect so much I count on please dont take away my help.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Name Darcy O

City Santa Maria

County Santa Barbara



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please dont take away my help
I rely on medicaid for so many things
such as health coverage, pay Hospital bills,
and so much more.

Please hear me out
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Miriam A

Name: Miriam A

City: Santa Maria

County: Santa Barbara



DATE: March 14, 17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I Angie morales need my health coverage. health coverage isn't cheap to afford. especially working a job that pays minimum wage. I also have other expenses to pay like RENT, bills, groceries etc. I also have two kids to take care that need my income. Not having health coverage will be really hard on me because that will mean I would have to work two jobs to afford everything

Sincerely,

Angie morales

Name: Maria maria

City: Maria barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

1000 ...

DATE: 3-14-17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I need my medications services
I take lots of meds every day
I could NEVER AFFORD TO PAY FOR THEM.

Sincerely,

Debra Davis

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 8-19-17
3.14.17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Everyone that receives help be it
medicaid or IHSS has their own
story, how these services have benefited.
There are many who rely on these
services as part of their support. Its
a great feeling to know that some
stress is relieved in our daily
life style. Just a few hours of IHSS
help gives many a time for refreshment.

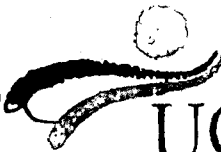
Sincerely,

Roni Baird, & Becky Wood

Name Santa Maria, Ca

City Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Alma Farsund I live in Santa Maria California. It would be very devastating for the state to cut Medicaid funding because ~~you~~ wouldn't have a way to pay for my medical needs or medicines because of my health issues.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alma R Farsund

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3-14-17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please don't cut or take away medicare
for the individuals I work for It helps
them greatly to keep them healthy and
function in society to the best of their
abilities. So Please think about all the lives
you will effect if you do cut backs.

Sincerely,

Milly Cuellar

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP

United
Central
Pubs.

WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I just wanted to take a minute
and explain why I think it would
be a bad idea to take away medical
from my clients they cannot help themselves
from here we offer them help and to help
them grow ~~we~~ they need help with medicine
and treatment by this is step who
will look after them my people mostly
working at upc. I realized what our
purpose here is and to help the clients
and make sure they are safe we care
there families we are here for them
mentally emotionally and physically.

Sincerely,

Alexis Escobedo

Name

Santamarica

City

Santa barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: March 14 1987

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please check the status and please please
Harold DEAN, I hope you read this letter I want to know
how help but my medication of home life problems
would like FORTS for 1987 and 1988 by you my life is
concerned with help me

Sincerely,
S. K. ...
Name
...
City
...
County



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Please dont take away Medicaid it provides Health coverage, my I.H.S.S, As much aid is help I need prescriptions, Hospitals, Drs As much of my aid is help I need. Please do not take this aid away

Thank you

Sincerely,

Kay Brayles
Name

Santa Maria
City

Santa Barbara
County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Brittany Wickham. I live in Santa Maria Ca. I have Cerebral Palsy. It would be devastating to not have Medical/Medicare. It would be hard to pay for my medical needs and medication.

[Empty lined area for additional text]

Sincerely,

XO
Name Brittany
Santa Maria
City Santa Barbara
County



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is AnnMarie McLomack, I work for a company named UCP Work Inc. We serve many people with different types of disabilities. A lot of the people, and staff who attend and work here rely on Medicaid for health care services as well as being able to attend day program. I myself rely on medical for myself and children. I would not be able to afford health insurance or pay a doctor's visit if me or my children get sick. My four year old daughter attends therapy once a week, that medical pays for. It is important that she continues therapy and if we lose our medical she would lose out on the therapy she needs. I would not be able to pay thousands of dollars for an emergency hospital visit if there was an emergency. Please don't cut out Medicaid, it is too important to lots of people in America.

Sincerely,

AnnMarie McLomack

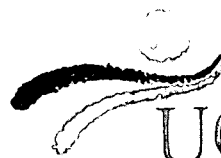
Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

WORK, Inc.


DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I count on Medicaid for health care for I HSS Hospital, bills ect do much I count on please dont take away my help.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Name Darcy O
City Santa Maria
County Santa Barbara



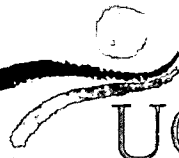
DATE: 3/14/2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I Need Medical to go to
the doctor. Medical pay for my medicines,
Without medical I would ~~be~~ be able to go
to the doctor. I would ~~not~~^{not} be able to get
my medicines,

Sincerely,

Gary Brewer



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

Name

City

santa maria

County

santa Barbara

DATE: MARCH 14 17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I Katie D need my medical. It helps pay for my health expenses. health expenses without medical isn't affordable. medical helps to make it affordable. I am a person with a disability and cant work.

Sincerely,

Katie D.

Name

Santa maria

City

santa barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I emily E need my medical. it helps pay for my health & ~~medical~~ medical expenses health expenses. without medical isn't affordable. I am a person with a disability and cant work.

Sincerely,

emily E

Name

Santa maria

City

Santa barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc

DATE: 3.14.17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Coming from a large family ^{it} was difficult to make ends meet, such as food on the table, decent pair of shoes, clothes that have been faded due to several hands in which they were passed down. So, whatever help I receive is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Loida Lohéors

Name

Santa Maria, Ca

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

WORK, Inc.

DATE: March 14, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

This is another reason why I hate politics. Why must you infringe on our rights just because some xenophobic, racist, soon to be dictator says so? We need this because a lot of us ~~don't~~ come from lower middle-class families with not a lot of income. You should stop being complacent and do right by the people of California. I've had it with all this garbage!

Sincerely,

Kevin Johnson

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/11

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I JESUS A need my medical it helps pay for
any health expenses. health expenses isn't affordable
with out medical. I am a person with a disability
and cannot work.

Sincerely,

JESUS AVILA
Name J: santa maria

City santa barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: March 14, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

This is another reason why I hate politics. Why must you infringe on our rights just because some xenophobic, racist, soon to be dictator says so? We need this because a lot of us ~~don't~~ come from lower middle-class families with not a lot of income. You should stop being complacent and do right by the people of California. I've had it with all this garbage!

Sincerely,

Kevin Johnson

Name

Santa Maria

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

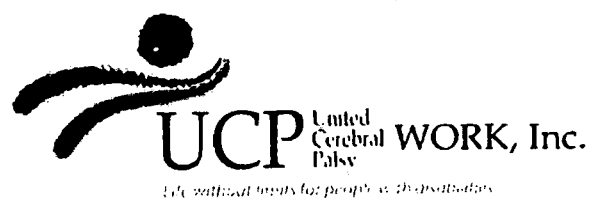
WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/15/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

The Medi-Cal Help's me a lot for helping me to recieve my medication for free, because, I alway's need my medication and I don't have what I need to stay away from having seizures. So I want to let medicare know I thank them if there really continuen on Paying for the bills to let me and everyone else to recieve all our medication for free. Because we're not as rich to pay for bill's like all people do all around.

Sincerely,
Stephen Douet
Name
Santa Maria
City
CA
County



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

My name is Kystal Marx

The medical helps me to my needs and is a need for me for the reason of my disability I can not sustain my expenses and I depend on medical care I need.

That is why I beg you to take into account my situation of disability.

Sincerely,

Kystal Marx

Name Santa Maria

City Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I go to the doctor
I they pay for doctor
I need to live
I need medical

Sincerely,
STEVE GORDANSON



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.

Name San Barbara

City SM

County

DATE: MARCH 14, 2007

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

MY NAME IS JOSE ALVARES. MEDICAL IS IMPORTANT
TO ME BECAUSE IT PAY FOR MY GLASSES AND MY MEDS
I NEED MY GLASSES TO SEE AND MY MEDS TO SLEEP GOOD
AND TO SEE MY DOCTOR AND MY DENTIST

Sincerely,

Name JOSE ALVARES
City HORCUTT SANTA BARBARA
County



DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Kris Anderson. I live in
Guadalupe Ca. It would be devastating
to cut Medical/Medicare due to my
medical condition. The dr. visits and
medications are so being on a fixed income
makes it hard to pay. I am Diabetic.

Sincerely,
Kris A. Anderson

Name

Guadalupe

City

Santa Barbara

County



UCP

United
Cerebral
Palsy

WORK, Inc.

DATE: 3/14/17

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

IT concerns me a whole lot.
Because I get seizures, and
need my meds for it & helmet, &
have a brace on my knee. And
I don't feel its right to take
are insurance & IBS that we
need to stay independent. But
mostly our Medicaid, we can't
live without any of the above.

Sincerely,

Jeffery Lehmer

Name Guadalupe

City Santa Barbara

County



UCP United Cerebral Palsy WORK, Inc.