

FOR FAMILY MEMBERS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Sample “Letter to the Editor” #1

Dear Editor,

I am writing because my family’s way of life is under threat. The proposed cuts to Medicaid could force my adult child, who has a developmental disability, to lose the supports and services that help him/her to live a meaningful life. This reduction would destroy his/her independence and my family’s financial security.

More than 47 million people on Medicaid are children, senior citizens, and people with disabilities. That number represents 64 percent of Medicaid’s total enrollee base. In our state alone, 352,000 people with disabilities depend on Medicaid.

The program guarantees round-the-clock supports for my son/daughter/sibling, who lives (*describe his/her living situation*). Each day, he/she (*describe how he/she lives their daily life – at a job, volunteering, socializing with friends, enjoying hobbies or favorite pass-times, etc.*). He/She lives a life worthy of the smart, motivated and caring person he/she is.

But that could change. If Medicaid were gutted, he/she would likely need to return home. My partner and I would need to cut our work hours. Like many other families, we could face the real possibility of bankruptcy.

We must tell our representatives in Congress that we will not cut Medicaid. We will not turn our backs on people with disabilities. We believe in everyone’s right to the pursuit of happiness.

Name

Hometown

Phone number