

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Dawn Roberson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, June 02, 2014 8:34:59 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2014 10:04 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, May 30, 2014 - 22:04

Agency: DEPARTMENTAGINGANDDISABILITYSERVICESDADS

First Name: Caroline

Last Name: Volbrecht

Title: Mrs.

Organization you are affiliated with: Abilene State Supported Living Center

City: Abilene

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

I am totally opposed to closing the State Supported Living Centers. They serve a purpose far beyond what most people ever consider. They provide a safe haven to people with mental disabilities who cannot function in regular everyday situations. It also gives their families comfort knowing their family members are safe and well cared for.

They live on a campus much like a regular community and neighborhood that the rest of us live in. No one place is perfect, but it is home to my son and many others with similar needs.

The individuals who are able, get to go out into the community to eat out, go to movies, bowling, and shopping, just like "normal" people.

Many work on campus in a safe environment . They are respected and treated respectfully. Staff are like family to them and they look forward to seeing them each day.

Many of the individuals have serious medical conditions and have medical care close at hand. Nurses are assigned to each home and monitor their care on a daily basis.

My son has a serious heart condition and had open heart surgery in 2004.

Because of the medical care he received on campus I feel that he would not be here today without that care. He has had many other medial emergencies and hospitalizations. Without the excellent care he received on campus I feel his life would have been in jeopardy.

These living centers serve a very important need for the individuals who call it home.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I think that some of the living centers could be closed as long as the others could be expanded to take in the other individuals who would have to move due to these cloussess.

It would be very important to try and keep the families as close as possible to avoid as much hardship as possible. It would thereby save the state a considerable sum of money.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree