

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, October 09, 2014 7:51:03 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2014 8:09 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 - 20:08

Agency: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION HHSC

First Name: Linda

Last Name: Levine

Title: Parent/Advocate

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Bee Cave

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I strongly support reviewing the HHSC/DADS waiver service of Day Hab as it is not an integrated setting. As we have passed Employment First Legislation last session, it is now time for Texas to move from segregated day services (day hab) to employment services. CMS is currently reviewing the waivers and is citing Texas as not having integrated settings for their day habs and is requiring them to make them compliant in this area. Many states are phasing out day hab services and some states have closed all day habs and moved the funds to employment services. This has been proven not only to be cost effective but to increase the quality of life of the individual since they will now be competitively employed in an integrated setting/workplace. APSE- the National organization that offers support and education in Employment First as well as SELN-Statewide Employment Leadership Network (which Texas is a member) are great assets to assist Texas in this endeavor. It was recommended by Sunset for HHSC to form a committee to look at this issue of day habs and I fully support this but feel it would be best to assign this task to the Employment First Task Force which was mandated by SB 1226 last session and is already the committee solely focusing on employment issues. These are the people who have the expertise to work on the day hab concerns.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I recommend assigning the task to conform our Day Hab services to the HHSC appointed Employment First Task Force that is currently in place instead of forming a new committee.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree