

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Dawn Roberson](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, June 26, 2014 8:43:18 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2014 7:39 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Thursday, June 26, 2014 - 07:38

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Have

Last Name: ToBEAnonymous

Title: State Employee

Organization you are affiliated with: DADS

City: Corpus Christi

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am a state employee and we were not told whether we could or could not reply to this - to avoid repercussions - I request anonymity. I have been with TXMHMR/TDMHMR/DADS for over a quarter of a century. Several of the things that the Sunset Commission report ignores is 1) how the individuals who would be in community are pretty much already there 2) how DADS leadership has purposely been reducing the population at the SSLCs while preventing new admissions that could be better served within the SSLC environment 3) how local medical providers pretty much REFUSE to accept Medicaid/Medicare patients - so there is no way to ensure this populations receives the specialized services requires 4) that in an SSLC there is no "insurance company" delaying/preventing care - what they need they get 24/7 5) that the MAJORITY of privately run group homes DO NOT provide 24/7 AWAKE staff - that is essential with the medical/behavioral needs of those currently living in SSLCs 6) that the DADS administration has NEVER pushed for complete Abuse Neglect or Exploitation reporting from the private providers - so OF COURSE it SEEMS like the private group home is "safer" 7) What about the alleged offender population? Including sexual offenders? How can they safely find a community home for the IDD sexual offender population when the "normal" sexual offender cannot find a home in the community! 8) Continuity of services - DADS admits that the Day Habilitation centers that are being paid for with STATE and FEDERAL funds are substandard - why is this not being fixed????!!!!?? 9) Why not be honest about how the \$\$\$ left Texas when the Lelsz lawsuit was settled by the Bush administration - DADS had money then, and full staffing. Salaries need to be competitive - sadly in human services, the pay is substandard - and moving these folks to PRIVATE GROUP HOME PROVIDERS who want a PROFIT - where does that \$\$\$ come from for the owners? From the staff salaries and from services delivered to the individuals - this is a FRAUDULENT use of STATE and FEDERAL dollars with no oversight to prevent exploitation.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Before throwing the people out - ENSURE that the Community services are of the same if not better standard of what is available in the SSLCs -

dental staff, medical and nursing staff, habilitation staff for adaptive equipment and services for OT, PT and Speech. Warehousing people in community group homes and allowing their health and safety to be placed in danger is scary and dangerous. Families entrusted their individuals to the state of Texas and on SO MANY LEVELS the state of Texas has let them down. We will be judged by how well we take care of the most vulnerable - Texas is not taking care of these special angels.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree