

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Dawn Roberson](#); [Cecelia Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, June 30, 2014 8:23:50 AM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]

Sent: Saturday, June 28, 2014 7:54 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Saturday, June 28, 2014 - 19:53

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Susan

Last Name: Brents-Sheldon

Title: parent of teen child with a developmental disability(autism)

Organization you are affiliated with:

City: Arlington

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I strongly support the Sunset Commission's recommendation to close 6 of the 13 State Supported Living Centers, focusing their efforts on improving the quality of care in the remaining centers, as well increasing the capacity of programs for people with IDD in the community, and improving supports for those with more severe needs. I also strongly support requiring DADS to effectively monitor day habilitation facilities-many are just warehousing people with IDD.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: This is a critical time to act on these measures-the oldest group of the autism epidemic are approaching adulthood. This is going to create a huge increase in need for quality community-based services, job training, supported housing, etc. As noted in the recommendations, the majority of families now choose to keep their children in the community, rather than state centers. Now is the time to start acting!

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree