

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Dawn Roberson](#); [Cecelia Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for the State Supported Living Center in El Paso, TX  
**Date:** Monday, June 30, 2014 8:01:29 AM

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

From: Becky Cardenas  
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2014 11:00 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Support for the State Supported Living Center in El Paso, TX

My name is Rebecca Cardenas and I live in El Paso, TX. My sister, Anita Marie Salcedo, also lives in El Paso at the State Supported Living Center. Anita is 59 years old and has resided at the El Paso SSLC since 1985. She loves living at The Center where all her needs are being met. Being severely mentally handicapped, Anita needs 24 hour care, including eating, dressing, bathing, toileting, and taking her medications. Because of this she needs complete supervision, as she has no sense of danger, and no defensive skills.

The staff at The Center treat Anita with love and care. My visits are always unannounced, and I find my sister clean, well fed, and happy. Anita regards The Center as her home, and the caregivers as her family. A move to another living facility would bring severe anxiety, mental distress and physical deterioration to my sister, Anita. She is well-adjusted to her life at the El Paso SSLC, and some of the staff have been with Anita since she moved to this facility in 1985.

I enjoy my visits with my sister; the staff is always welcoming, and her cottage is bright, clean, and beautifully decorated.

Some of the benefits to having Anita at The Center are the 24 hour on-site clinic with medical staff. Anita suffers with seizures, and it gives me great peace of mind knowing that she will have medical attention immediately if needed. Anita receives excellent medical care. I attend her Neurology appointments, and have great respect and accolades for Dr. Lujan who sees her on a regular basis. He has kept her seizure-free for almost a year. I do not want another doctor changing her medication at all. Another benefit is her best friend who lives in the same cottage, and has been with Anita since their time at the Abilene State School. Any separation between these two ladies, because of a move to another facility, would be detrimental to Anita's mental and physical health, and probably her best friend, too.

My sister, Anita, does not accept change the way a normal person would. Change is very hard on her, and a move to another facility would be very harmful to her mental and physical health. Please allow the El Paso State Supported Living Center to remain open and functioning as a wonderful home for Anita and all the residents at The Center.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Cardenas