

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 30, 2014 4:48:55 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 11:34 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 30, 2014 - 11:33

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Norine

Last Name: Gill

Title: Volunteer

Organization you are affiliated with: The Arc of Texas

City: Seabrook

State: Texas

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

In support of a closure plan for State Supported Living Centers.

Texas government has a proud legacy of being able to do what it needs to do at the time that it makes sense. While the closure of at least some of the SSLC's has been a long discussed issue, it seems like the time is right to move forward with the recommendations from the Sunset Staff Report. There have been major advances and shifts in community based services and supports

- no one should be without the services they need living in the community.

In order to do that, the Medicaid physicians, providers and community will need the resources to grow stable and sustainable services, including housing, transportation and employment.

For every person living in the State Supported Living Center, there are several other people needing the exact same supports living in the community, usually with their family. Clearly, people with significant behavioral and/or medical needs can be served in their home community or nearby.

But, previous budgets continue to pour funding into the SSLC's that have a declining population. Numerous problems persist with building maintenance, staff turnover and abuse.

Meanwhile, Texas citizens who remain in the community will have to struggle to find the Medicaid physicians, providers and resources to meet their needs.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

1. Restore community services & program budgets to meet the current population needs, both in terms of numbers

as well as intensity of services.

2. With the Star+Plus rollout for acute care, provide the incentives for specialized physicians and therapists to provide medical care for our family members.
3. Utilize the funding and reallocation of resources to support people with intellectual/developmental disabilities are supported in their community.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree