

**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 4:47:57 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 11:43 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 - 11:42

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Kaili

Last Name: Goslant

Title: Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee/Director of Agency Services

Organization you are affiliated with: The Arc of Texas/The Arc of the Capital Area

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City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: As an advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, I support the recommendation that the state shift their funding priorities to focus supports on a community-based system of services and supports versus an institutional-based system. Currently there are over 100,000 individuals on the interest lists who are waiting to receive services through the IDD waiver system. Some of these individuals have been waiting for as long as 11 years to receive services! These individuals deserve to receive the necessary supports they need to continue to live in the community and have the opportunities to live, work and play amongst their family and peers. The average cost to serve an individual in an institutional-setting can be 3 times the cost of serving an individual in the community.

Therefore, I also support the adoption of the Sunset Commission recommendation to right-size the State Supported Living Center (SSLC) system, and redirect the funding towards community-based services. Despite declining enrollment and increased costs, the State of Texas continues to operate 13 SSLC's. Given the number of individuals currently awaiting services on the Medicaid-waiver interests lists, the population of individuals with disabilities and their families have shown a clear preference for community-based services. Through the consolidation of the SSLC's, Texas can more efficiently serve individuals who reside in the institutional settings, while providing the resources to those who desire to live in the community. The shift from an institutional-based priority to a community-based should not come without the proper enhancements to the statewide community provider system to ensure proper training and capacity.

People with IDD must receive access to the proper medical and behavioral supports so they can successfully transition into the community. Therefore the savings acquired through the consolidation of the SSLC's should be reinvested into the community-based system through proper training and supports to providers, appropriate rates at all levels of service and making certain that suitable quality assurance measures be put in place. I appreciate the opportunity to provide input during this process and look forward to the implementation of the Sunset Commission's recommendations.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: No new recommendations.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree