

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 4:38:37 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 2:31 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 30, 2014 - 14:31

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Rosemary

Last Name: lester

Title: self

Organization you are affiliated with: DADS

City: Bastrop

State: Texas

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

I am the mother/guardian of Rose Marionette Hopkins. She has been a resident of the Austin State School for 40+ years. She was diagnosed by Texas Children Hospital in Houston Texas and I was informed that she would not ever be able to take care of herself. Also that she would need 24 hours care.

When I committed her to the school, it was traumatic for me because I had kept her for 6yrs of her life. At the beginning of her stay I visited the school regularly until I was told that it made it hard for her to adjust.

She has gone through two major surgeries since being there. Curvature of the spine where they inserted a Herring rod into her spine and having her eyes removed due to glaucoma. I was blessed that she survived and is in good health now.

I must commend the staff for the support she received.

I am a believer of God and trust in his word when he stated that he would not leave me nor forsake me. Yes I wondered why me until I realized that I was chosen for this task. Then I started reading the Beatitudes in the Bible in Matthew 5 and it gave me strength to hold on to my one and only child.

The ladies that take care of her are very familiar with her needs and keeps me aware of any problem she is having.

I am 69 years old and have medical problems myself. I weigh 110 pounds and have high blood press, low bone density, and a cracked femur in my right leg.

This makes it difficult for me to try to carry or lift her, since she is larger than me.

My concern is that she will be placed in an environment that could cause a setback. The school is a great location for clients in her condition, because it is minutes to all the major health centers.

I attended a CPS hearing on June 25 and after hearing the testimony of the young children on the panel, another concern appeared about the protection of children like mine. I realized the my daughter would not be able to see, talk, or run away from this kind of abuse in the world today.

Please help me to keep her safe from becoming a sacrificial lamb.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

With individuals like my daughter I found it hard to believe that the school can afford to miss any Federal Funding. Perhaps if we made salaries competitive there would be no need for trained individual to leave the job in search of better pay.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree