

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Dawn Roberson](#); [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: El Paso SSLC
Date: Monday, June 30, 2014 8:02:06 AM

Sent: Saturday, June 28, 2014 4:21 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: El Paso SSLC

My brother, Michael Hoss, has resided at the El Paso State Center for approximately 26 years. My father was required to take him there after the death of my mother and our inability to work for a living and take care of Michael's needs on a daily basis. It was a very traumatic situation for Michael and our family, but we had no choice. Since that time, Michael has adapted well to his new home. He enjoys coming home and visiting with his family on weekends, but he is always ready to return to his home at the State Center. Over the years, the staff at the El Paso State Center has taken very good care of Michael. Although we have had to bring some issues to their attention, they made appropriate changes to our satisfaction and work very hard to see that Michael's needs are appropriately met.

The El Paso State Center is not only home to Michael, but many, many other individuals who, through no fault of their own, have nowhere else to go. One must realize is that most of these individuals were initially taken from their first home, taken away from their loved ones, and put in strange place. They had to adapt to their new home and learn to love a new family. Although Michael's family has not forgotten him, many of these individuals were dumped at the El Paso State Center, and their families never returned. To now uproot these individuals from their home, again, and separate them from their new family is nothing less than cruel and inhumane. Many of these individuals do not do well with change. Many of them have no voice in this matter.

Furthermore, closing the El Paso State Center will result in the loss of many jobs in an already declining economy. Clearly, the benefit of leaving the El Paso State Center open, so the residents can feel safe and have some stability in their already chaotic lives, and so numerous jobs are not lost, far outweighs any burden of keeping the facility open and running.

If somebody you loved was residing at the El Paso State Center, what would you do? Is this about money or doing the right thing? This is a very important decision that you will deal with for the rest of your life. I respectfully suggest you decide wisely.

Thank you for our consideration. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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