

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Dawn Roberson](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Friday, June 27, 2014 1:31:09 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]

Sent: Friday, June 27, 2014 12:32 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Friday, June 27, 2014 - 12:31

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Sherdeana

Last Name: Owens

Title: Board of Directors Member

Organization you are affiliated with: SHARE

City: College Station

State: Texas

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

I oppose the closure of the Austin SSLC and the proposed closure of other centers by the year 2020. As a family member and former caregiver to a Down Syndrome adult who resides at the Brenham SSLC, I am aware of the difficulties of home care and community care. Some clients require too much personal support to live in the community. Community living is a less expensive alternative because it does not have to support those with extraordinary needs. If community living homes had to purchase assistive equipment and provide one-on-one care for complex clients, the costs would soar.

There are many thousands of clients on wait lists for community living. Most of them would be suitable candidates although some percentage should really be housed in SSLCs. Movement of large numbers of clients from SSLCs to community based housing is not feasible unless the numbers of community housing units increases greatly. Also, most community based housing agencies do not accept clients who need specialized care.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: My brother was evicted from three community housing units due to the level of care he required. We were lucky to gain admission for him at the Brenham SSLC. Many other families are in this same situation. Often, clients who live at home, have caretakers who are unaware of the facilities provided by SSLCs. Marketing strategies to increase the number of residents in SSLCs seem to be a better plan than placing high-maintenance clients into community housing.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree