

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 23, 2014 8:28:35 AM

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

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

Sent: Sunday, June 22, 2014 11:01 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

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

Submitted on Sunday, June 22, 2014 - 23:01

Agency: DEPARTMENT AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DADS

First Name: Loretta

Last Name: Turner

Title: parent/guardian

Organization you are affiliated with: none

City: Aubrey

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I wanted to give a few words of input regarding the possible closing of the state supported living centers. As a parent/guardian of a 27 year old young woman who needs this service, I submit to you that not everyone is a viable candidate for community living. My daughter currently lives at the San Angelo SSLC and is finally becoming somewhat successful at her ability level for the first time in too many years to count. This particular SSLC works exceptionally well with individuals who have developmental disability, physical handicaps and emotional and/or behavioral issues. When you have a mix of all three, as does my daughter, it can be a daunting task to find competent staff to work her. For the first time in many years she feels safe, accepted by peers at her same level, she is attending classes and works regularly in the campus workshop. A lot of days you might think at first glance that she would be a good candidate for group home living because she is cheerful, productive and cooperative. However, she can turn on a dime and become an aggressive, spiteful, dangerous person who turns to self-injury for no unexpected reason. The well-trained and caring staff at San Angelo handle her outbursts exceptional well and then redirect her to more positive behaviors as we work toward maximizing her full potential. As of this writing her behaviors have reduced greatly and she is learning to speak up about her feelings and cooperate with measures in place for positive behavior. We have tried other SSLC's, group home placements, and she even had to be confined to the state hospital for two years when her behaviors became unsafe to manage in any other environment. I request that you give the decision to close all SSLC's further consideration as to what will become of these individuals who cannot live safely in the community?

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I have no definite recommendations other than to possibly consolidate some of the smaller facilities but please do not close all of them. All of the parents/guardians of this population are also aging and will become even more unable to speak up for them as time goes by. The one peace of mind that I have is that she will have a safe place to live and be taken care of as I age. She has no other siblings or family members who would be able to take care of her without the assistance of SSLC's.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree