

June 16, 2009

Senator \_\_\_\_\_/Assembly Member \_\_\_\_\_  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Cuts in services for People with Developmental Disabilities

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_/Assembly Member \_\_\_\_\_,

The Lanterman Act guarantees services to people with developmental disabilities. The proposed cuts would mean:

- Children currently receiving early intervention services in our Parent / Infant program may not be eligible for those same services tomorrow. Studies have shown that Early Intervention Services save the State \$3.00 for every \$1.00 spent.
- Adults with developmental disabilities would no longer have a choice in the programs they currently participate but will be the least costly instead of the program that best meets their needs. This could affect their ability to work and earn income costing the State additional tax revenue.
- Respite services reduction can lead to an increase in residential placements costing the State over \$60,000 per year vs. the average \$2,700 per year spent per person on Respite services.
- Additional cuts to community services for people with developmental disabilities will cause unacceptable harm and threaten health and safety. Our community has given enough!
- Support alternatives to bring in more federal funds, seek savings in state-run developmental centers, and generate revenues to pay for the supports our children and families need.

**NO MORE! We have contributed hundreds of millions of dollars in rate cuts, program restrictions and eligibility limitations. We strongly oppose further cuts that are excessively devastating to consumers and to the service delivery system. There are better alternatives.**