



COMMUNITY **NOW!**

Independence from waiting. Freedom from institutions.

Long-Term Plan for the State Supported Living Centers

- Create a permanent moratorium on all non-forensic admissions to all 13 State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs).
- Transition the 200 children under the age of 21 currently living in SSLCs to the least restrictive setting immediately.
- Use the current downsizing of the Austin facility as an opportunity to design a plan for future SSLC rebalancing.
- Continue with the enhanced transition efforts at Austin SSLC until the census reaches zero.
- DADS Regulatory must move to decertify SSLCs that have chronic Immediate Jeopardy violations. The decertification of an SSLC must occur after 3 Immediate Jeopardy designations within a 24 month period. [Since January 2012, state regulators have threatened to decertify Austin SSLC five times for failures in resident care. The center had 33 termination warnings since fiscal year 2009 after DADS staff found major violations.]
- Expand the use of crisis intervention teams to help people with behavioral needs avoid negative interactions with law enforcement.
- DADS guardianship program of 99 staff, and at a cost to taxpayers of 6.3 million in fiscal year 2013 should be evaluated and downsized. All 1,366 persons currently under DADS provided guardianship programs must be in the least restrictive settings in accordance with the Olmstead Decision.
- One of the many factors that contribute to a toxic environment at the SSLCs is the fact that nonviolent residents who may be medically fragile and residents under the age of 18 are not typically separated from adult alleged offenders. Alleged offenders must be separated from the general population at all times. Forensic facilities must be designated exclusively for forensic populations.
- Work to expand Consumer Directed Services (CDS) options to all Medicaid community-based services and ensure that information on how to access the CDS option is readily available and accessible.

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