

Commissioner Murray DDS

December 29, 2015

Charlyne Olko
283 Brainard Rd
Enfield
860-749-0057

STS must be closed now. The state has expert reports giving this recommendation. The process to move people from STS has been much too slow. Everyone belongs in the community and never in a segregated environment. The only people that benefit at STS are the state employees. We are paying enormous monies to keep this antiquated institution open at the expense of the disabled residents. Commissioner, would you keep your relative in a secluded environment?

I am the parent of a young adult with ID. He receives no support from DDS nor do we want any. I have never been impressed with any of the DDS employees that we have met. I have no wish for my son to be involved with them. They deliver lip service, few seem to be invested with their case work and go through the motions, paperwork. They do little for a decent paycheck. The entire DDS system needs to be revamped with employees that truly care and respect the disabled population and their families. They are people not just numbers.

DDS must offer services to those in need now. Closing STS and the regional centers now would allow DDS the additional funding to help those that are eligible and are waiting for services.