

From: Joelle Martin <joelle_martin@hotmail.com>
To: "HBCctransitionplan@dhhs.state.nh.us"
<hbcctransitionplan@dhhs.state.nh.us>
Date: 02/15/2015 03:12 PM
Subject: Written comments on state's Draft Transition Framework

15 February 2015

Commissioner Nicholas Toumpas and HBCS Transition Team NH Department of Health and Human Services
128 Pleasant St.
Concord, NH 03301

* Public Comment regarding HBCS Transition/State's Draft Transition Framework

Dear Commissioner Toumpas:

As a New Hampshire resident, special educator, teacher and parent, I am writing to you today to express my concerns about the state's upcoming transition for Home and Community-Based Services. I was provided this email address to submit my written comments to you and your team by Deb Fournier.

My greatest concern about this transition is that our high quality, community-based support system for individuals who experience disabilities, led by our Area Agencies, will be replaced by a system led by out-of-state MCO's that are driven predominantly by their shareholders' profits.

Our bottom-up system, where the end users, individuals who experience disabilities and their families, are the primary decision makers about their care will now become a top-down system where profit-driven organizations will make decisions without individual's input. These MCO's, who have had little to no experience delivering long-term care and support services, will now be responsible for providing critical and highly specialized services to our most vulnerable citizens.

The long-term, collaborative relationships that our individuals who experience disabilities and their families have developed with their Area Agencies, health care providers and caregivers to help them achieve optimal health and high quality of life may be at risk due to MCO contract decisions. The carefully selected, high quality home and community-based service providers may be told that they are no longer able to provide the services and care that our residents need to thrive.

As this transition to Medicaid Managed Care is put into place for home and community-based services, please make sure that our Area Agencies continue to provide the critical support so needed by our most vulnerable citizens.

In addition, please make certain that our citizens who experience disabilities are able to continue to work with the health care partners and community service providers they have identified over the years who have helped them to optimize their health and quality of life.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joelle Martin
122 Noons Quarry Rd
Milford, NH 03055