

March 11th, 2021

67th Assembly—Senate Appropriations Committee – HB 1012: Section 11 DD funding

Hello Chairman Holmberg and members of the committee,

My name is Jackie Long and I've been getting Section 11 services from Community Living Services for about 9 years now and they have helped me out a lot. My case manager Janice comes every week and helps me with my pills and helps me with my money. If I have appointments she will help bring me to those too. It is difficult for me to make my own appointments—I need a reminder, and Janice makes sure I make it to my appointments and helps me understand my doctor's orders. I've been working at NDSU since 2014, and Janice also helps me with work and financial stuff, and with my benefits when I need it.

My staff Angie helps me go to Walmart, get groceries, and helps me with keeping up my apartment. It's hard for me to get on my knees and scrub the floors, so this helps me out a lot.

Being involved with CLS has helped me get connected with other activities even though I don't have "Day Hab" hours—For example I go to TNT Fitness every Mondays and Wednesdays to exercise.

In the past when I did not have this support, I had an ex-boyfriend take advantage of me with my credit cards and got me into lots of problems. I went into debt, I lost my job, I lost my home and my housing assistance. My DDPM switched me to CLS and it has helped me so much.

I feel secure and better that I know where my finances are at, and that I have someone to help me make decisions about big purchases when I need them. It's helpful to have someone to help guide me in the right direction, and to help me in making good choices and better decisions, and the Section 11 program has done that for me. It would be too much for me on my own; I don't think I could handle it.

I do hope that CLS can continue this service because the people using Section 11 really do need the help. It would be much harder for us if we were on our own and it would be very difficult to manage things. We do need that support and do need you to keep going with these services. If I did not have this service I would probably be so overwhelmed I might have a nervous breakdown, because it would be so hard for me to manage everything on my own.

Thank you for your time, I appreciate all you do.

Jackie Long
1201 2nd Ave N, Apt 609
Fargo, ND 58102
701-361-1582