

May 12, 2015

To Whom it may concern – Ohio State Senate

Re: Medicaid Committee Hearings scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2015

Our son, Greg, lives at Boyd's Kinsman Home in Kinsman, Ohio. Boyd's Home is a Medicaid-licensed Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with developmental disabilities.

We are saddened to learn that there is a plan being formed to possibly eliminate Intermediate Care Facilities and sheltered workshops in the state of Ohio.

We feel that the group (Disability Rights Ohio) that is 'leading the charge' for this change does not speak for our son, nor do they speak for us, Greg's parents.

We are speaking for our son, although if the truth be told, Greg speaks for himself and has made his own decisions for many years. Greg has lived at Boyd's Kinsman Home for 24 years and is happy. It was his choice to live there and he waited six (6) years for an opening.

We have confidence that his every need is being addressed by the staff at Boyds, where he is safe, well cared for and happy.

Pitmark, the sheltered workshop, adjacent to Boyd's Kinsman Home offers a safe work environment and provides the residents with work that gives them a feeling of accomplishment and self-worth.

The residents of Boyd's Kinsman Home are actively involved in the Kinsman, Ohio community. In addition to that we would say that they are a valued asset to the community and welcomed at all events in the Kinsman area.

Please give very careful consideration as you debate this issue and possibly make proposals for change that could be very destructive to the lives of these very special folks.

Thank you for listening.

Respectfully,

Greg Hoye's parents

Clarence & Margie Hoye of Williamsfield, Ohio

