

Written Testimony- Joyce Motter, Aunt of YDC Resident Heidi Gwizdale

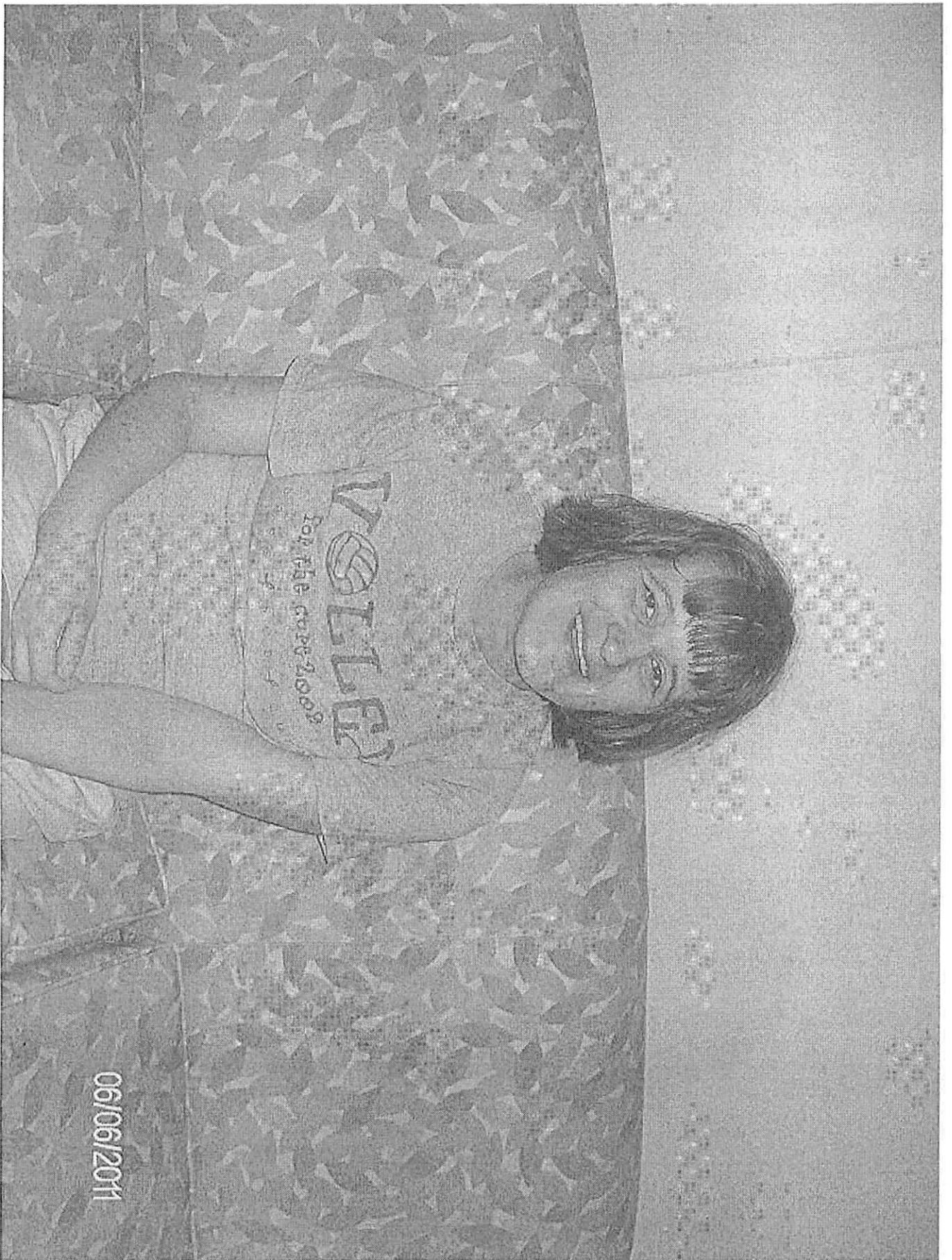
Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Member Cafaro, and Members of the Senate Medicaid Committee. Thank you for allowing me offer testimony on House Bill 64, the main operating budget, and more specifically Section 5123.032, which establishes a review board to assess the closure of a developmental centers. This section of the budget could potentially keep the doors of the Youngstown Developmental Center open. I WAS A WITNESS BEFORE THE HOUSE IN MARCH. EVERYONE WAS SPEAKING FOR THEIR RELATIVES AT YDC INCLUDING MY SISTER DORIS GWIZDALE. I HAD DECIDED TO TRY AND BE HEIDI (MY NIECE) AND WRITE AN ARTICLE IN THE THIRD PERSON AND TRYING TO THINK HOW SHE WOULD THINK ABOUT THIS SITUATION ABOUT CLOSING HER HOME, YDC. I HAVE WORKED WITH CONSUMERS OF THE MENTALLY CHALLENGED FOR 20 YRS. I WAS AN OHIO CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR'S ASSISTANT FOR MAHONING COUNTY WHICH WAS KNOWN AS MRDD & NOW IT IS KNOWN AS MCBDD. SO, I FEEL QUALIFIED TO SPEAK ON THIS SUBJECT.

THERE IS A PHOTO ATTACHED TO MY ARTICLE, WHERE HEIDI WAS WEARING A BIG SMILE.

MY NAME IS HEIDI, DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY I AM SMILING? BECAUSE I JUST FOUND OUT THAT LOTS OF PEOPLE THAT LOVE ME WENT TO A PLACE CALLED COLUMBUS YESTERDAY TO TALK TO SOMETHING CALLED OUR GOVERNMENT, THAT OWNS MY HOME I LIVE IN WITH ALL MY FRIENDS & MY BIG FAMILY I HEARD THAT THIS GOVERNMENT WANTS TO CLOSE OUR BIG HOME & MAKE US GO SOMEWHERE ELSE. NOW, THAT DOESN'T SOUND TOO NICE & I WOULDN'T LIKE IT AT ALL. THIS IS OUR HOME, IS THIS LIKE WE DIDN'T PAY THE RENT OR SOMETHING? THIS IS VERY CONFUSING FOR ME, BUT THE WAY I SEE IT, ALL THE PEOPLE THAT WENT TO COLUMBUS WENT THERE TO TELL THIS GOVERNMENT THAT THEY CAN'T DO THAT TO US. I REALLY THINK THIS TRIP IS GOING TO HELP US BIG TIME, BECAUSE ALL THESE PEOPLE LOVE ME & MY BIG FAMILY AT YDC. SO, THEY WILL KNOW HOW TO MAKE THIS GOVERNMENT CHANGE THEIR MIND BECAUSE THERE IS NO WAY ALL THESE PEOPLE THAT LOVE US WOULD LET THEM KICK US OUT. I KNOW MY MOM AND AUNT JOYCE WENT & THERE IS NO WAY THOSE TWO WOULD LET THEM DO THAT. THAT'S WHY I AM SMILING BECAUSE I HAVE FAITH IN THEM & ALL THE PEOPLE THAT MADE THAT TRIP. AND BESIDES THAT GOVERNMENT MUST HAVE A HEART, IF THEY LOOK FOR IT OR BETTER YET FEEL IT.

HEIDI GWIZDALE WRITTEN FOR HEIDI BY JOYCE MOTTER(HER AUNT)

HEIDI HAS THE MENTALLY OF A 1 YEAR OLD AND NEEDS ONE ON ONE  
ATTENTION 24/7.THIS HAS BEEN HER HOME FOR OVER 20 YRS. SO PLEASE KEEP  
IT OPEN. THANK YOU



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