

I have been an Independent Care Provider of people with disabilities for over 13 years and I also have a daughter that receives services through the Fed. Gov./St.Gov.

Reductions/cuts/changes in Medicaid and other funding would send so many people reeling. I would see those affected first hand with the clients that I serve; many, many individuals and with our family via my daughter. It sounds like my own job may be threatened and at stake. The people that I am committed to are people that can not fend for themselves. They are extremely limited and dependent on their family and their benefits. They have such simple lives and all they ask for their basic needs to be met and human dignity to be preserved. They do not ask for much.

Who are we as a nation if we do not provide for our most vulnerable, impaired and challenged citizens? That sounds uncivilized!

If one can even imagine themselves in a disabled person's shoes, having to be dependent on someone(s) to provide for their basic necessities and having to count on others to have their backs or to be their voice, is scary to think about. Any one of us could find ourselves as a disabled person at any sudden point of our lives. All it would take is one stroke or accident or illness. So this is something that could/might affect ANY one of us, quite actually. No one is immune.

These cuts can/will affect thousands of citizens' most basic human needs, programs, lifestyles, health care needs. The people that shoulder their care, which already have such a huge responsibility and are already struggling and juggling for them will suffer even more. Without funding help for the individuals needs or the funding to employ the caregivers themselves, there will undoubtedly be desperate consequences and unfortunate situations in the future.

Families and caretakers are already making daily sacrifices to keep themselves and their loved ones afloat. The effects of these cuts impact so many more people than anyone can even wrap their brains around ahead of this threat, it's not just a direct hit to one demographic. The ramifications would be traumatizing and large scale for so many beyond the person with a disability, really any and all people associated with them.