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Chairman Smith and members of the finance committee thank you for allowing me to speak today. My name is Terri Farley Davis and my son Shawn Farley is an individual at Youngstown Developmental Center and has been there since Dec. 13, 1983 when he was 12 years old. Living at YDC is the best thing that ever happened to him.

Over the last few years, YDC has been there for Shawn and his family through some sad and tragic times. From the death of Shawn's grandmother to the murder of my son and Shawn's brother on April 22, 2008.

God gave me this incredible human being for a son. Or as I put it, Shawn's staff and his friends call him a character. He's so social and so upbeat. He's a great kid. Staff at YDC is a great group of people who care about these individuals. Shawn became the person he is because the staff at YDC. Anyone can get a paycheck but the staff do so much more than that.

Shawn is the oldest of 6 children, but he also has more family at YDC such as Bobby, John, Vickie, Jerry. He grew up with these people.

Closing YDC would not be in the best interests of family or these individuals. Everyone seems to be concerned about what's going to happen to the buildings. I want to know what's going to happen to my son.

Let's put the politically correct and the big thinkers in the state and federal government aside, and put faces and heart on this situation. Please do the right thing by keeping YDC open. We are a family. Thank you. I'm happy to answer any questions.