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I have worked extensively with Chris Boynton and the staff at Maine State Library. The Talking Books program has made a huge difference in the lives of many of my clients who have lost the ability to read visually. For some people, this is their greatest source of company, joy, and hope. Just before federal funding was cut last year, a client said to me, "if I didn't have that (Talking Books) I wouldn't have anything." It is important that this is a stable program for the many people who depend on it.

There are too many uncertainties to rely on federal funding and risk losing the key staff person responsible for services to the blind & visually disabled through Talking Books if our federal funding is rescinded or does not continue into the federal FY27 budget year.