

I am the mother of Abby, a 38 year old woman with Down Syndrome. She lives on her own, works at Goodwill, and goes to several day programs; Creative Trails, Art Program and Listen Up; a music program. Abby is also a graduate of STRIVE U in Portland. She navigates the bus system well enough to go to her job and to her Creative Trails program. Abby is active in her Church and volunteers regularly in the Nursery.

Abby also receives Home Support for which she is eligible 3 afternoons a week which is necessary for her to live independently due to her disability. Unfortunately, with the current staff shortages, she is only able to have home support one afternoon per week. Abby is very independent and would like to continue living on her own but without her home support, it is extremely difficult. My husband and I are in our 70's and are concerned about what will happen when we can't be as involved as we currently

I'm concerned that the Lifespan waiver promises too much and the system is already stretched with overcapacity and non-completive rates.

Sincerely,

Doreen J. Theriault

Cape Elizabeth, ME