



Associated Production Services, Inc.
The Packaging Performance People™
Empowering Disabled Workers

December 22, 2016

Dear Friends of APS,

RE: ODP Communication 095-16 Appendices A-H of the Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support

Comments MUST be received by January 17, 2017

On December 5th I wrote you as to the proposed changes and mandates the state Office of Developmental Programs has issued which if enacted would force us to close as a work center. Many of you have written to various governmental officials and ODP and I thank you for this.

Please note that I have enclosed a pre-addressed, pre-stamped envelope and paper. I am asking you to write a note to ODP and make three strong recommendations.

I highlight the recommendations so that you can simply copy them if you like.

- We want to make sure that the choice to receive services at APS remains an option. By 1/1/18 program participants will be required to spend 25% of their time in the community. By 7/1/18 the requirement increases to 50%, and by 1/1/19, to 75%. **We recommend that the required percentages of time in the community are removed from the waiver and that people keep their right to choose where they receive services.**
- We want to make sure that everyone who wants to receive our services in our facilities have the ability to do so. The state is limiting the number of people in a facility-based program to 100. Our largest site has 170 people. Duplicating the space, machinery and management is not economically sustainable. **We recommend that the state remove the 100 person limit on facility based programs.**

- **Safety and Choice** are the most important core values of any delivered service to the developmentally disabled. A mandatory community integrated program appears conflicting with these values and does not provide for the development of self-esteem and sense of living a productive life, in the company of good friends that our consumers want and deserve. **Please comment that people who desire to participate in a work center should have that choice five days a week.**

Finally, please add a personal note as to how you think the proposed changes would affect your lives, and the life of your loved one that works with us:

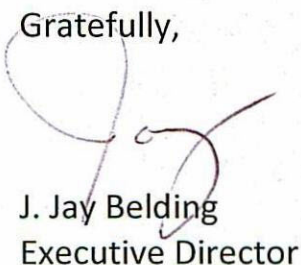
- Will it be disruptive? Emotionally, psychologically, etc.
- Will it have financial implications?
- Will provisions have to be made for your loved one to possibly stay home alone all day?
- Do you feel that these new regulations, born of idealism, will benefit a few people but the vast majority of people needing work centers will be denied the appropriate services they require?
- As a taxpayer do you feel that costs of managing community based programs is a wise investment? The current proposed regulations call for a 1:3 staff ratio verses our current 1:15 ratio. Is it best done at night and weekends?
- Our consumers earned \$2,200,000 this year

As promised I have corresponded with ODP and explained to them that we will develop innovative job placement and integrated work experiences outside the shop for those who would choose to participate. Job training prepares one for a hopeful future.

Please remember to try and participate on one or more of the three webinars which will include an opportunity to comment and hear from others. Please visit our website www.apspackage.com under Transition Plan, click on the - [ODP Communication - Delay of the Public Comment Period for the Consolidated and P/FDS Waiver Renewals \(.pdf\)](#) for dates and times and to register.

Thank you for helping us support safety and choice.

Gratefully,



J. Jay Belding
Executive Director