

March 2014

## State Budget Could Impact Funding

## Your Help is Needed

The FY16 budget that Governor Rauner proposed on February 18th eliminates ALL RESPITE grants. This would mean \$8.9 million dollars of services for thousands of individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities living in our communities would be absolutely eliminated, without a safety net and without a transition plan.



For CSS, families who receive Respite services supported by state funding, would no longer be eligible for services beginning July 1, 2015.

**It is hopeful that Respite funding will be restored but advocacy must start now.**

Please [join CSS in our letter writing campaign to restore Respite services](#) to families in Illinois.

Legislators have said that if they receive as few as

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### CSS News



[Springfield Leadership Addresses](#)

[Local Legislator Addresses](#)

[Sample Advocacy Letters](#)

[Sample Family Letters](#)

[Watch the WGN TV Story and Learn How Rauner's Budget Will Affect CSS Families](#)

**Connect With Us**

FIVE letters from their constituents, they pay attention to the issue. Show our legislators that Respite is a vital service that allows individuals to thrive in their own community; and keeps our families out of crisis.

We have provided the names and addresses for [key legislators](#) who should each receive a letter. If you are a CSS family who receives Respite services, we have prepared a [sample family letter](#) for you to use.

To find out what Rauner's budget cuts could mean for families who depend on Respite Care like the Bedards, see [the WGN story](#) that aired on March 11.

Please deliver all letters to the CSS office by March 23. CSS will hand deliver to Springfield for greater impact. However, ALL letters are vital, and can be mailed directly as well.

*Warmest Regards,  
Diane Farina White*

Diane Farina White

P.S. To learn more about the benefits of Respite Services, [click here](#) or visit [www.CSSservices.org/respite-services](http://www.CSSservices.org/respite-services)



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of Supporters

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## OUR MISSION

CSS is a private nonprofit agency that initiates, provides and promotes services for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families, within their communities, in order to strengthen their independence, self-esteem and ability to participate in and contribute to community life.

## Illinois' largest respite provider

Each year, more than 383,381 hours of service are provided by our dedicated staff. We serve 791 individuals and their families throughout 57 communities in Chicago's

western suburbs.

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