

First of lets not call them cuts but slices or chunks, that seems to be more deeper. Shame, shame to all those who have had their hands in the kitty and continue to play "good ol' boys and girls" with their hunting buddies, poker pals, tea party goers, and bridge partners. There is too much to say and despite what the recipients need and what is voiced the state is content on what they want, by the way has nothing to do with what is right or in best interest. It is obvious that decisions with out caution and/or conscious works best. Our state hired who knows who and paid who knows what for a bunch of degreed and experienced professionals to revise, rewrite, pick and pluck at the DMRS provider manual over the past 5 years, could be more, and with all the "time" and money spent this is the outcome. This is the best they could come up with. I attended the trainings and they could not answer questions regarding certain areas of services or their area of expertise. That is because there are no REAL people in these departments making these decisions. When I say real I mean; hire a mother of six that can some how manage to feed her family on 15,000 dollars a year, hire a man who has taking care of his brother that has mental retardation, hire people that can relate to problem at hand not because they are frat brothers and name droppers. The best experience is LIFE and living it to learn changes daily. Some are so caught up on what looks good on paper or what is in black and white that people are forgotten. We live in a world of color and so to look at all these recipients as one or even representing two; perceptions will continue to but grey. That is the area our decision makers love to play in. That's that area that offers personal opportunities for personal gain. That is the area they use when hands are shook in the dim of night in secluded areas. The spectrum has been broken, who knows it may never been looked at in the first place. We have called them clients, which mean we are to offer something. Then we called them individuals which mean we should treat as such making all different, looking at all for what make each one who they are. We told them they have RIGHTS but we tell them what to do, how to it and when. They were given supported services and now the state has snatched out the bottom because someone has skimmed off the top. It sad too because they know who but make recipients suffer. They are living well while recipients need justification for what is needed. Get you hand out the kitty, drive, sorry, have someone to drive you, and come see for yourself. Come spend some time with a service recipient that you want to have a house mate, so that money can be saved. After about 2 minutes maybe less he will hit you, take your coat (will NOT give it back), tear up the car, or become sexually aroused by your vinyl rain coat or piece of plastic. Who can he live with? Is he safe and is the safety of the housemate worth trying to find out? Come visit, stay a while, stop taking the tour. Tours are not personal; tours are planned, scheduled, and set up. Ask the recipient what they need or what has continue to offer them a "HEALTHY, SAFE, and CARING life because despite their condition or mental state, he or she will continue to look forward to better days; not knowing that they have been exploited once again, this time in the name of the Ole Mighty Dollar. Which they are not getting a "cut", well not of the type the state has in mind.

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