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Kathy Cooper

From: Jason S <dbzfanjws@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 1:43 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Regulation 14-546



To whom it may concern,

I am writing to plead with you to re-think and rewrite Regulation 14-546. It will devastate the service providers in our state. As a parent with a child who has an autism diagnosis, I know full well how long the current wait lists are to receive help for a child. Some of the changes you propose will lead to most of the current service providers shutting their doors for good. Until the few who meet the new requirements can grow to absorb those children left in limbo how many years will pass? I am sure you mean well, but the parents would prefer to have choices between providers than none at all. If you really do want some of these changes to move forward you must allow no less than a 10 year period so that no child has interruptions in their services. Please think about the current backlogs and parents desperate to receive some help vs your new preferred licensing of the directors of these facilities. Will a sudden change in their degree make any major impact on the care these children receive? Is it worth leaving thousand with no care at all for years just to implement this? Please reconsider the rule or the timeline. Every Medical and Academic expert would agree that early intervention is the single most important step in helping any child on the Autism Spectrum. So I ask you to please not derail thousands of children, because that is exactly what will happen if this moves forward. We will lose 90 % of Autism wrap around service providers in the state of Pennsylvania if a change is not made to Regulation 14-546.

Please look at Philadelphia county. This year moving forward, because of poor legislation there, providers of wrap around services are quitting. They are done and moving on to other things. Only a few will be left. The children and parents are going to be left in limbo. Any child that has been receiving help for 3 years or more, regardless of progress made, will be dropped from the system. I beg of you to look at past mistakes made elsewhere so that we do not repeat them here.

Please take a look at Regulation 14-546 and remove the new licensing requirements or give a much longer timeline, because the lines for help are growing not shrinking. Please reach out to the School Districts and ask about the need to increase their number of teachers and classrooms for kids on the spectrum. Ask the directors of the providers of wrap around services how long their wait lists are. Please do not make a sudden change that will leave thousands of children with no help for years to come.

a very concerned parent,

Jason Snyder