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IF THIS WAS YOUR CHILD HOW WOULD YOU FEEL?

A State agency and some politicians have decided to immediately close down seven homes for the severely disabled on the campus of the Austin State Supported Living Center. These innocents are being “kicked out” of the Homes/Community that they have known for years and told to go find somewhere else to live in Texas – evicted through no fault of their own. The reason: a developer wants that land and has contributed to a number of politicians to have them do his bidding. The facts follow.

IT JUST ISN'T RIGHT!

Is this what our community wants for the severely disabled when, in fact, there is nowhere else they can be cared for as well or on a 24-hour basis? Ask us parents and you will see that we are very pleased with the care they have been given at the Center – a big difference from what the State is saying. Most importantly, this land was gifted many years ago to be used as a special place for the mentally disabled. Our legislators and elected representatives need to be fully informed of the exceptional care the Center provides – care that is not available elsewhere.

THE REAL FACTS

1. They talk about numbers: We talk about INNOCENT HUMAN BEINGS whose very lives are on the line. It will literally be a death sentence for some of them.
2. They say: It's a problem keeping staff, etc. and every bureaucracy knows best. We say it is a matter of management and every family/guardian knows the truth of what is really going on.
3. They say: Move them to community homes. We say look at the record. Some community homes are not licensed or cannot give 24-hour nursing care, plus there have been cases of documented sexual abuse and neglect! You would be absolutely appalled at some of the stories.
4. They say: The population is declining at the Center. Actually, the Center has had a moratorium placed on it by a State agency to not admit any more residents. We say that is not right. There will always be a great need for the very special services the Center offers. Texas and these innocents deserve that!

The Center and the exceptional care provided to the fragile lives who call it home should be kept as is. It has worked well for years. Fragile lives are more important than any real estate development envisioned, wouldn't you as a citizen agree?

The State Legislature, at the Session beginning in January, 2015, will have the final say, not only on the future of the Center, but also on the future of other Centers around Texas. Before any decision is made, all members of the Legislature should visit the Center so they can see the vital need for themselves. How can you vote on something so serious without seeing what it will mean for these severely disabled residents???

**WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW, PLEASE CALL YOUR MEMBERS OF
THE CITY COUNCIL, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND YOUR
LEGISLATORS TO SUPPORT KEEPING THE AUSTIN STATE
SUPPORTED LIVING CENTER OPEN FOR THE SEVERELY
DISABLED. THEY NEED YOUR HELP!**

Ad pd. for by Family/Guardian Association, P.O. Bo 201443, Austin, Texas 78720