

January 18, 2005

To: Human Services Appropriation Committee
State of Montana

Dear Chairperson;

My name is Scott Small. I lived independently and attended Montana State University and became ill in 1979. I went to the Butte hospital for three weeks. I was treated by a psychiatrist, but I stopped my medications and went back to college part time. I became sick again in 1982 and was treated by a general practitioner. I was able to graduate from M.S.U. with a B.S. in Economics. I worked 12 weeks at Kmart and became sick again in 1987. From 1987 until 2000 I was in and out of Montana State Hospital several times. I came to the PACT team in 2000 and I have remained in Helena since then.

The PACT team has provided me services which are case management, and medical management. Since I am mostly independent the biggest help from PACT, in terms of living in the community, has been management of my medication. At first I got my medications on a daily basis and I have gradually improved until now I get my medications a weekly basis.

Being part of the PACT team has helped me continue to live independently in the community for several years. In addition, my self esteem and self confidence has increased.

I want to give my support to the continuation of funding for this Program for Assertive Community Treatment. This is a very beneficial program to my self and many other individuals.

Thank you for your attention.