Good, Laura

From: Monica Hanson [MHanson@Sheridanstatebank.com]
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2005 4:49 PM
To: Good, Laura
Subject: FW: Medicaid Waiver Program

From: Traci Wilson
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2005 12:42 PM
To: 'LGood@mt.gov'
Cc: 'wicart@yahoo.com'
Subject: Medicaid Waiver Program

January 28, 2005

Health and Human Services Appropriation Subcommittee
Representative Christine Kaufman
Representative Ray Hawk
Representative Penny Morgan
Senator John Cobb
Senator Greg Lind
Senator Dan Weinberg

Members of the Committee:
I am writing to express my concern regarding the funding of the Medicaid Waiver Program. In order to pay for medical and assisted living costs, the savings my grandparents spent their lives building is gone.

I feel so fortunate that my Grandmother is currently living in a wonderful facility. She has a beautiful new home at New Horizons in Livingston. This facility is owned and run by very special caring people and staffed with friendly, competent employees.

My grandmother is just one of hundreds of needy individuals waiting for a slot with the Home and Community Based Services Program. It has been my greatest concern for months because I personally do not have the financial resources or support system to care for my grandmother and without a waiver slot her only other option is to live in a nursing home.

I realize there are good nursing home facilities, but I truly believe she would not have the same quality of life she experiences at New Horizons. The idea that most troubles me is; if she was transferred to a nursing home, Medicaid would be paying almost two times more per month for her living/housing expenses than what it costs for her to stay where is now, where she is happy.

You have difficult decisions to make, and I don't envy your position. Thank you for taking the time to hear from the people who are affected by these funding decisions.

Sincerely,
Traci Wilson