

help me find the proper resources to make my life easier and oversee everything for me; she also intercedes for me regarding the communication with my lawyers and to get through my legal and financial battles. Since my coma, I have not been able to comprehend written words such as instructions. Therefore, without my caregivers I would be lost. HCBS also helps me to shop and to schedule, remember, and transport me to my Doctor's appointments.

The average cost of a nursing home in Montana is approximately \$48,000 (forty eight thousand); the average cost of my home care is \$24,000 (twenty four thousand). The difference for me, of course is immeasurable.

In closing I would like to thank you for letting me express my opinion before you on this matter and ask you to keep in mind that HCBS is vital to all our needs, they are our link to the normalcy of life. I am very fortunate to have these services and I know that there are so many out there that require these services also. Please continue funding Home and Community Based Services and expand it to include as many as you can. In the long run the cost is much more economically sound than the other options presented to all of us.

Thank You

Nancy Williams