



Dear Families, Friends and Supporters,

I am writing to inform you of some very important information that will affect you, your family, your friends, and programs or services provided by the Arc of the South Shore.

Unfortunately, this is an urgent situation and we all need to be involved to preserve the support services thousands of people are currently receiving in Massachusetts.

Everyone knows and understands that we are all facing an economic crisis, but did you know that the **Governor's House One Budget for fiscal year 2010 cuts \$78 million from DMR and MRC services?**

State-wide this would result in:

- **11,000 people with developmental disabilities losing services**
- **1100 direct support professionals losing their jobs.**

How this affects the Arc of the South Shore services:

- ***All or our respite programs and our family support services provided for children will lose funding. (approx \$120,000 of DMR funding)***
- ***Up to 15 people could lose their vocational supports at Harbor Industries.***

Were you aware that the Commonwealth is receiving \$3 billion in Enhanced Medicaid Stimulus over the next three years? This stimulus money could prevent these cuts from happening.

In the 58 years of existence for our Arc, these cuts are probably the worst that we have ever faced. Previous cuts have never been this large for those needing these support services. We have never experienced such disturbing reports about the budget. The Arc of the South Shore will continue to do what we can to provide these much needed services and will continue to keep you informed, but we need your help.

What can you do? Please be a voice for everyone with a developmental disability. We need EVERY parent, grandparent, sibling, spouse, guardian, friend, companion, aunt, uncle, cousin, neighbor, co-worker, etc... to make a phone call or write a letter voicing your concerns to the Governor, your local Representatives and State Senator. Ask your State Representative and Senator to restore disability funding and use the Medicaid stimulus to save these programs and services for those in need. Explain to them the importance of these services. Help us advocate for and with those individuals at risk of losing much needed support services.

Below is a selected list of state representatives and senators for the south shore. The Governor's office telephone number is 617-725-4005. Please use this to assist you in reaching out to those who

can change this. Once you have called or mailed a letter, please let us know who you contacted and when by contacting Craig Pina at (781) 413-2230 or, preferably via email at cpina@arcsouthshore.org

Thank you for getting involved and taking action at this critical time. Please contact us with any questions. Together we can be the voice for our most vulnerable citizens.

Sincerely,



Daryl Ann Cook
Executive Director

State Representatives

Garrett Bradley	Room 479	617-722-2520
Joseph Driscoll	Room 136	617-722-2396
Ronald Mariano	Room 254	617-722-2220
James Murphy	Room 136	617-722-2396

Senators

Robert Hedlund	Room 313C	617-722-1646
Brian Joyce	Room 413A	617-722-1643
Michael Morrissey	Room 413D	617-722-1494

State House, Boston, MA 02133