

Introduction:

Good morning Mr. Chair, members of the subcommittee. My name is Jefferson Kee and I am the Executive Director of CCRC, Inc. We provide services in McKinley and San Juan Counties and the Navajo Nation, northwest region of the State. CCRC has also been a member of ADDCP for over 20 years.

Impact of the Burns Rate Study and implementation of the Support Intensity Scale (SIS) assessment on service providers on the reservations:

- Employment and customized community support services was severely impacted by the rate reductions in 2013. Due to very limited public transportation on the Navajo Nation, many of the agencies transport consumers to all their employment sites and other customized community support services, which can easily be 60 to 90 miles (roundtrip) daily.
- SIS – The interviewers did not consider individuals living on the reservation don't readily have access to medical facilities (hospital), distance they have to travel to hospital or for specialized services. Many of the individual's families or guardian do not have dependable transportation or have infrastructures (electricity or running water). Eliminating SIS would be cost saving and allow to restore some of the funding to direct support services.