



*San Juan Center for
Independence*

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Good afternoon Disability Concerns Sub-committee members

Thank you for allowing public input on this important funding consideration.

My name is Tim Carver I am the Chief Financial Officer for San Juan Center for Independence in Farmington, NM. We are one of three state funded Independent Living Centers in New Mexico. We are a non-residential non-profit organization that provides services to individuals with disabilities. We are mandated to employ at least 51% individuals with disabilities and our Board of Directors must also be comprised of at least 51% individuals with disabilities. We are a cross disability organization which means we serve all individuals with disabilities.

We are funded with states funds that the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation receives. From July 1, 2009 to July 1, 2012 our funding has been reduced by 16.9% due to budget cuts that were required to balance the state budgets. These funds have been earmarked as recurring.

During last year's Disability Sub-committee hearing money was funded for the New Mexico Commission for the Blind for their Independent Living Program. This year we are asking to have funds for our Independent Living Services restored to the Fiscal Year 2009 amounts. This amount would be \$54,740.29. We continue to see an increase in the amount of individuals with disabilities that we serve every year. The reinstatement of Fiscal Year 2009 allocation would allow San Juan Center for Independence to provide more outreach and better services to the rural areas that we serve. San Juan Center for Independence Independent Living Services covers approximately 11,000 square miles. San Juan Center for Independence Procurement programs covers 17 Northern counties in New Mexico.

Thank you again for allowing us to provide public input on these important funding issues.

Sincerely

Tim Carver
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