

I am the parent of a son with a Brain Injury. It appears Iowa has moved too quickly without proper preparation and fore site to know and to inform those of us at the grass roots level about the changes that are coming.

It would seem wise to ask the legislature to step in and either stop, reverse or modify this run-away train of Medicaid Service Privatization created by the governor in our state.

The agencies and providers we rely on for advice regarding our son's care are as confused as I am. They are unable to give any guidance at this time because they don't have any answers from the state. How can we be asked as parents and guardians to make changes when our providers don't even know how they will be affected?

From the meetings I have attended, we are being asked sign up with or will be assigned to one of the private companies without our knowing what they are proposing and what they will cut from services provided to our son. I realize they are committed to no cuts until July, 2016. However by July we will be assigned to one of the companies and we are *obligated* to stay with the company assigned through December, 2016. What they are cutting in July could have a major impact on the care and support our son receives for six months. Even if we are able to change companies in December, 2016 what services will still be available for him? Will the BI Waiver be cut? Will his providers still be working with the company we are assigned to? Will any services he requires still be covered by any private company?

Some of the services our son currently receives are case management, medical doctors, hospital, assisted community living, financial management assistance, job assistance, employment services.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to determine that private companies who will increase administrative costs by as much as 15%, build new offices and staff them in the state of Iowa must reduce, deny or totally cut services currently provided to those in need in our state.

We need more time to research, understand and make informed decisions if we must be *forced* to make these drastic changes for our son's care.

Please help DENY or SIGNIFICANTLY change this process.

Sincerely,

Marianne

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