

# Happy Thanksgiving!

Dear Governor Murphy,

Thanksgiving is upon us and I can truly say I am most thankful for the Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) who help my loved one with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It's not just convenient to have DSPs in my loved one's life - it's a necessity. DSP work can include everything from personal care and physical support to community integration and community living skills.

I realize that there are many priorities facing the State of New Jersey, but as you put together your FY'21 Budget, please remember that families don't have a choice about needing DSPs. There must be funding to increase salaries for DSPs so that families like mine can rely on these staff to help my loved one with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Sincerely,



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