

Legislative Advocacy
Sample Letter

My name is _____ and I (work at/receive services from/support) Gilead Community Services. Gilead is a private non-profit organization that provides a full continuum of community mental health services including residential supports throughout Middlesex County. Last year, Gilead served over 600 individuals and employed over 200 staff.

I wanted to personally THANK YOU for supporting the thousands of individuals who benefit from community-based human services! The funding that you prioritize in the budget supports life-sustaining programs that serve adults, children and families with mental health and substance abuse disorders.

Recently, The Nonprofit Alliance released projections that show the State would save \$1.3 billion over five fiscal years by shifting more human service programs to community nonprofits while protecting thousands of children, families, seniors and individuals with complex needs, who rely on those services.

I would like to meet with you or talk on the phone to discuss this report and why community services mean so much to me. Programs provided by community nonprofits can help solve the State's budget deficit. Saving money while delivering more services through nonprofits provides a pathway to continue serving hundreds of thousands of citizens while helping balance the budget. Community based human service providers can be part of the solution, and I urge you to consider this structural change.

By supporting full funding for human services, you are ensuring that you, your family, friends, neighbors and constituents have access to the high quality care when it is needed most!

Thank you again for your support!