

7. Is there anything else you would like to say about the ideas in this discussion paper, or ideas not included in the paper that you feel are important?

INDIVIDUALS / FAMILIES/ SUPPORT NETWORKS ARE PLEASED THAT THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN. FAMILIES HAVE BEEN VOICING THEIR OPINIONS FOR MANY YEARS THAT THE PRESENT SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM IS BROKEN; BUT NOW INSTEAD OF ASKING THAT IT SIMPLY BE FIXED, THEY ARE ASKING THE MINISTRY TO LISTEN TO THEIR COLLECTIVE VOICES AND MAKE REAL POSITIVE CHANGE BY DEVELOPING A NEW MODEL FOR SERVICE DELIVERY THAT ENABLES INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES TO TAKE THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACE IN SOCIETY, A RIGHT WHICH HAS BEEN DENIED THEM FOR FAR TOO LONG!

INDIVIDUALS / FAMILIES / SUPPORT NETWORKS WISH TO REITERATE THE IMPORTANCE OF INVOLVING THE CONSUMER OF SERVICES IN ALL ASPECTS OF POLICY DISCUSSION AND DEVELOPMENT AS THEY ARE THE RECIPIENTS OF THOSE DECISIONS. IF YOU DON'T LIVE THE LIFE, ASK THOSE WHO DO AND RESPECT THEIR INPUT!

- not everyone was informed of the entire process of this transformation and as consumers they should have had more detailed information
- there is a fear that the proposed time line is too short; but while families need help now, it is also important to take the time to make changes the right way to ensure the success of change
- families are asking that the government and service providers trust individuals/families/support networks to represent their needs honestly, respectfully, with only the best interest of the individuals with disabilities at heart
- it is important that for true change to take place it is important to involve all areas of government; all levels of government and the public sector
- learn from previous mistakes; segregation has created a population dependent upon services; learning can only take place through real experience; policies created without the input of those involved will

continue to negatively impact those individuals because unless you live the life, you will never know what it is truly like