



If you are inclined to submit written comments regarding the proposed reduction to HCS payment rates you may send them to members of the Texas Senate and Texas House of Representatives representing your district. To determine who represents you, go to www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us and type in your zip code.

Suggestions regarding what to include in a letter or email:

- Your name, address, phone number and email address
- Your affiliation with Village Learning & Achievement Center (parent, guardian, donor, volunteer, board member, etc.)
- If you are a supporter of Village Learning & Achievement Center, share your beliefs about the impact the organization has in your community. Village Learning & Achievement Center employs over 100 people and contracts with local vendors whenever possible. If the organization closes, what will the ramifications be for your community? Explain your impression of what the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities might be like if Village Learning & Achievement Center can no longer afford to provide programs and services to individuals with disabilities and their families. If you enjoy seeing Village Learning & Achievement Center program participants living and working in our community, describe your feelings about the inclusive opportunities made possible by the organization.
- If you are the parent or guardian of an individual with a development disability, how many years has your loved one been on the HCS interest list (or, how many years did it take for their name to come to the top of the interest list).
- If your loved one has HCS, how has their life improved as a result of receiving community-based services and supports? What would their life be like if their services and supports were reduced or eliminated? How would the reduction or elimination of services and supports affect your family? Would you have to quit your job to provide care and supervision for your loved one? Would your financial security be jeopardized? Would you have no choice but to leave your loved one at home alone while you work? Would your personal health and well-being be impacted due to lack of respite from providing care for your loved one? Would you have to send your loved one to a Texas State School (institution) because you are unable to provide care? If your loved one no longer has HCS services and supports, what do you anticipate will happen to them once you are deceased?