

Stop Governor Patrick's plan to close four of the six developmental centers for people with mental retardation/developmental disability!

- These are the only DMR residential services that meet the federal ICF/MR standards of care for staff ratio, active treatment, and 24-hour nursing availability.
- The taxpayers will not save money in the first four years of the Governor's plan, if ever. New spending will be required first. With thousands of people waiting for residential services, and half of all DMR clients living at home with caregivers 60 and over – this is no time for DMR to be closing anything!
- It is just wrong to say that residents will be integrated “into the community.” These long-established congregate living situations are communities, more involved with their neighbors than most group homes.
- The developmental centers are the safety net and service centers for all DMR clients. More than one-third of all DMR clients use facility-based services each year: including the Tufts Dental Facilities program, adaptive technology workshops, pools, chapels, auditoriums, day programs, and respite beds.
- The most experienced and highly trained direct care workers in the Commonwealth are at the developmental centers, working with people who have some of the most serious and complicated medical/behavioral issues. Don't let the budget cutters break up the finest comprehensive treatment centers we have for mental retardation!

This isn't just an eviction notice for 500 of the most vulnerable citizens residing at Fernald, Glavin, Monson, or Templeton – It is also an attack on tens of thousands of people with intellectual disability who now use facility-based services, or may need them in the future.