

HELLO!

MY NAME IS MALISSA. I AM 24 YEARS OLD.
I AM NON-VERBAL AND I AM SEVERELY MENTALLY
RETAIRED.

I HAVE HAD SOME ROUGH TIMES IN MY LIFE, IN
FACT SOME VERY SAD AND PAINFUL TIMES, ALL BECAUSE
OF THE WAY I WAS BORN.

I AM HERE TO TELL THE WORLD, THAT BECAUSE
OF MEDICAID, I NOW HAVE A TRULY MEANINGFUL
LIFE.

TODAY, I DO NOT LIVE IN A NURSING HOME OR IN
AN INSTITUTION, BUT INSTEAD, IN A REAL HOME
WITH A REAL FAMILY THAT I CAN CALL MY OWN. I
NOW HAVE FRIENDS. I AM VERY HAPPY. AND THIS HAS
BEEN MADE POSSIBLE, ONLY DUE TO THE PROVISIONS
OF MEDICAID.

I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU ALSO THAT I AM
A PART OF A LOVING COMMUNITY. I ENJOY MY
NEIGHBORS. AS I TAKE WALKS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD
HOOD. I GO BOWLING, SKATING, TO THE MOVIES, TO CARNIVAL,
TO CARNIVALS. BUT WHAT BRINGS ME THE GREATEST JOY
IS MY SWIMMING LESSONS. OH! IF ONLY YOU COULD
SEE ME, I LOVE WATER SO, SO MUCH. MY NEXT
ADVENTURE IS TO INCLUDE HORSE LESSONS IN
MY LIFE.

I CAN AND I DO ENJOY ALL THE THINGS THAT

YOUNG WOMEN MY AGE ENJOY. I FORGOT TO MENTION MY DEEP LOVE OF MUSIC AND I LOVE TO DANCE.

I GIVE ALL THANKS FIRST AND FOREMOST TO MEDICAID. BECAUSE MEDICAID, HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO HAVE WHAT EVERY PERSON DESIRES: A LOVING NURTURING HOME, TO CALL YOURS OWN.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST I THANK THE FAMILY, THAT MEDICAID PAYS FOR MY IN HOME SUPPORT. I AM FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR THE FAMILY: ALLOWING ME TO BE TO BE A VERY SPECIAL PART OF THEIR LIVES. THEY ARE CAREGIVERS WHO HAVE LEARNED FROM MY FACIAL EXPRESSIONS, FROM THE LOOK IN MY EYES, THE POINT OF MY FINGERS, THE MOVEMENT OF MY HANDS: THEY KNOW WHEN I AM HUNGRY, WHEN I AM THIRSTY, WHEN I WANT TO GO TO THE BATHROOM, WHEN I WANT TO GO OUTSIDE, WHEN I'M IN PAIN, WHEN I WANT TO LISTEN TO MUSIC OR THE TELEVISION, AND EVEN WHEN I WANT TO TALK ON THE PHONE.

NOT ONLY DO THEY KNOW, BUT THEY CARE TO ALL OF MY NEEDS AND WANTS.

IF I COULD SAY TO YOU VERBALLY, I WOULD SAY:

I AM A VERY BLESSED AND HAPPY YOUNG LADY. AND I HAVE BEEN MADE TO FEEL VERY SPECIAL! AND MEDICAID, YOU ARE THE ROOT CAUSE

OF IT ALL. IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU, THAT I NOW
HAVE A WONDERFUL LIFE.

THANK YOU MEDICARE! THANK YOU - THANK
YOU - THANK YOU.

Aprilia Deppong