

Testimony
Department of Human Services
Human Services Interim Committee
Representative Hogan, Chairman
July 26, 2016

Chairman Hogan and members of the Human Services Committee, my name is Nathan Schatz and I nearly died 2 years and 9 months ago. I suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury. I can't even begin to try to describe how difficult it is, trying to recover from a TBI. Luckily I have several friends and family that were willing to do whatever they could to try to help. I even got help from where I wasn't expecting any. Community Options had gotten ahold of me, and we scheduled a meeting. I immediately felt a positive vibe during the meeting, which in itself, is very helpful in TBI recovery. The meeting went very well, it was very personalized and my awesome Community Options Staff tried to pinpoint what I needed help with the most. That meeting and every meeting after I was delightfully surprised with how warm and comforting the staff approached each meeting. This always resulted in a boost in confidence for me, which is what I personally, probably needed some help with the most.

I consider myself extremely lucky to be a part of potentially the greatest family in the history of the universe. From ALL of my loving family members I have received unconditional love and support, which has been a major part of my recovery, also. Unfortunately, not everyone is as lucky as I am. I can't even imagine how difficult trying to recover from my TBI would have been, without my family and Community Options. For those trying to heal from similar situations that unfortunately don't have the same loving family situation that I do, is where Community Options thrives on their organizational directive, the most. They provide an incredibly caring and motivational service to those who struggle with a variety of issues. Community Options provides a family-like structure to their clients that are struggling. PLEASE help Community Options to continue to help people like myself. We need help. And Community Options REALLY wants to help us. Please contact me if you have any questions. Nathan Schatz (701) 579-4823.