

Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee.

My name is S Giles and I am a person with disabilities who gets support through Benco. I wanted to share the impact wage has had on my life.

I had a staff who was teaching me Spanish words. She took the time each day to come and say "Hola" to me and would find a new word each day for me to learn. She made really good food so I never had to worry about dinner. I really liked working with her but she left to get a 'better' job. I don't know why it was better. Why was I not good enough? I thought she really liked hanging out with me. I thought she really liked being here but she told me she needed a job that 'pays better.

I feel like I am stuck in a revolving door of faces. Every time I think I am finally going to have someone who I can trust they leave. I feel stuck sometimes because I do not know who will stay and who will go. Every time someone leaves, I feel like they take a part of me with them and I can't get it back. I don't know what to do when they leave. I get really angry at myself, I feel like I did something wrong. It makes it hard to enjoy life when they people I want to enjoy it with leave. When they leave because they need money it makes me ask myself why am I not enough to make them want to stay?

Please fund disability services.

Thank you,

S Giles