

My daughter has received services from NWRES D since she was 18 months old. What started as a physical delay became a speech delay. She now receives speech therapy and preschool weekly. My daughter is bright, smart and capable and she's not developing as her sisters did, or as most children do at her age. Without the support of NWRES D she would not be adequately prepared for preschool or kindergarten, her delays would be an insurmountable hurdle leading to frustration, disconnect from her peers and learning loss. Because she has been continuously attended to by the staff she is growing in her communication and ability. She loves school, learning and those around her because NWRES D has been with her as she has grown to help her overcome and address hurdles she has.

Attack on this funding are attacks on children specifically high needs children, it's a way to punish people who are not rich, who are not upwardly mobile or are not academically privileged. Cuts are ableist, these programs are designed specifically to support children with higher or different needs. Cuts to these programs are sexist, it is largely women and mothers who care for children and who lose work hours and opportunities caring for their children, it is largely women professionals who work in Sped whose work is continually labeled unnecessary or wasteful because they teach children who may never perform in traditionally 'successful' ways. Cuts to these programs are classist, wealthy families can seek support elsewhere if they have need. Cuts to these programs is racist, children of color are less likely to be identified and recipients of quality sped education services than their white peers, cuts would cause greater gaps in that service.