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February 21, 2020

Appropriations Committee, Health Subcommittee  
Connecticut General Assembly  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of KenCrest to respectfully request that the legislature appropriate \$461 million over five years for community nonprofits, who provide essential services to people with disabilities, families, and children throughout the state of Connecticut. Since 2007, community nonprofits have lost at least \$461 million in state funding that has not kept pace with inflation or adequately covered increased costs and demands. Fully funding community services ensures that people with disabilities receive quality services in the community of their choice.

KenCrest operates 13 community living homes in Fairfield and New Haven Counties, providing community-based supports to adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities. KenCrest's services and supports include community living, personal supports, in-home supports, community participation programs, and employment options. KenCrest's mission is to support community development by exploring possibilities, mobilizing resources, and empowering dreams.

In addition to funding community nonprofits, KenCrest supports Governor Ned Lamont's proposal in the Department of Social Services (DSS) and Department of Department of Developmental Services (DDS) budgets to create an incentive payment model to transition individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities into independent living models.

An incentive payment model reduces the cost of services, supports community nonprofit providers, and promotes the full inclusion of individuals in their communities. The cost savings from this new program should be used as an opportunity to reinvest in the system by increasing rates and moving individuals off the waiting list.

We look forward to working with you this budget season. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact Maureen Quinn Yamamoto, Government Relations Strategist, by email at [Maureen.Quinn.Yamamoto@KenCrest.org](mailto:Maureen.Quinn.Yamamoto@KenCrest.org) or by phone at (610) 825-9360 ext. 1020.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Marian Baldini  
President and CEO  
KenCrest