7/10/2024

Dawn Lyons,

My name is Kris Sandall and I wanted to let you know how important RCIL is here in Elko, NV and the rural counties. I am a client of Margaret Marcucci’s and she has helped me more than anyone. I have a processing disorder, speech impairment, generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), and depression. I see a doctor and a counselor and am on medication to help.

One of the places I struggle most is at the Welfare office. I have had a hard time understanding things, but when Margaret told me she can go with me, that has been a life-saving gift. I now get better assistance at the Welfare office with her there as she helps me to understand terms and policies. She has been able to keep me calm and explain things to me.

Whenever I have questions, she is able to help me and if she doesn’t know an answer, she finds out and gets back to me. With all her research, studying and learning, she knows what to do and where to go.

Having someone here, who knows how the rural areas work is critical and a much-needed resource. The big cities don’t understand us out here and treat us like we are in the city. Rural areas don’t have the resources like the big cities. Rural communities need people like Margaret to help us to find answers and resources. We need people here who understand us and our needs.

As far as the NNCIL, I never knew it existed and could be a resource for me to turn to. However, it wouldn’t be helpful anyway because the members of the organization never came out here to assist us. They are **NOT** helping those of us in the rural areas. It is important to have someone in the rural areas to help be a voice and who understands our needs here. Margaret, and the RCIL fills that void!

She has helped me to accomplish things that I didn’t think I could because of the support she gave me and continues to give me. We talk about living on my own, out of my parent’s home, but have decided that it is not the time to work on that yet. We are working on other things to help me be self-sufficient and confident as possible. She presents to me choices that allow me to succeed or fail in a safe environment which she provides.

I have found that there are a lot of individuals here with disabilities and we are not getting the proper help and support we need. Anytime someone asks me if I know of where to go for help, I give them Margaret’s information and I know she will do her best to help them.

Not only has Margaret helped me, but she has also communicated with my mother to help her to understand the choices and guidance that is being offered to me. Margaret’s skill set involves helping the individual which in turn helps the family.

Thanks for your time,

Kris Sandall

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