

Dear MIRC,

My almost 30 year old son was diagnosed with schizophrenia when he was 17. At that time he was approved for SSI disability. He had full Medicaid benefits. He graduated high school with the help of a tutor hired by the school system that went to every class with my son and took notes and helped him understand what he needed to do.

A couple years after high school he went through a program called Job Corp and received a certificate in plumbing. Job Corp helped him find a job as a plumber helper. He worked for about one and half years before he had a full blown schizophrenic breakdown and lost his job. With the help of his mental health support groups, he had friends and had a reason to get up.

Now, he is on SSA and has only QMB Medicaid. He is \$3.00 over the so called poverty line. He is in desperate need of having his full Medicaid benefits back so he can go to group meeting and have some social life with others just like him. He has no quality of life. He sits for hours and hours by himself, day in and day out. He has no one to talk to. He is so lonely. He has been in and out of hospitals because of loneliness several times this past year. Please help!