

# Our message to Premier McGuinty: Keep your promise to persons with a developmental disability

For thousands of Ontario families, hard times are nothing new.

Individuals with a developmental disability, their families and the people who support them in daily community living have tried to do so much with too little for decades.

In the 2007 provincial budget, the Ontario government made a four-year commitment to fund developmental services in a way that would help the thousands of people on waiting lists for support. The new funding would also help the individuals and families who were experiencing the stress and setbacks that came with high turnover among the developmental service workers providing support.



Now, the hard times are hitting more Ontarians and the government is sending signals that it may not meet all of its previous funding commitments.

But it's the wrong time to cut back again on some of the most vulnerable members of our communities.

The funding commitment for developmental services must be met through to 2011 as promised. The positive changes are just starting to be felt. Persons with a developmental disability don't need another setback.

Here's what adequate funding for developmental services delivers:

- Consistent, quality supports that help individuals expand the boundaries of their abilities.
- Consistent, quality supports that help families care for their children or siblings with a development disability and continue to be active members of our communities.
- Consistent, quality supports that help individuals live actively and visibly – and, in many cases, work – in our communities.
- Hope for individuals and families who sometimes linger for years on waiting lists for those essential supports.

## Send your message to Premier McGuinty

Please take two minutes to join us in sending a message to Premier Dalton McGuinty and Finance Minister Dwight Duncan. Visit [www.cupe.ca/action/keepyourpromise](http://www.cupe.ca/action/keepyourpromise) and follow the directions to send your email message.