

Public Hearing on:
H.B. 5005 An Act Adjusting The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2021

Good afternoon Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Formica, Representative Lavielle and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee:

Tracey Miller, CW Resources, New Britain, Ct.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 5005 An Act Adjusting The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2021,

Community nonprofits provide essential services in every city and town in Connecticut, serving people in need and employing tens of thousands. They are what make Connecticut a great place to live and work.

I am here to respectfully **request that the legislature appropriate \$461 million over five years for community nonprofits**. 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 demand for services over the last thirteen years. Please:

1. Commit to increasing funding by the full \$461 million, or 28%, by Fiscal Year 2025;
2. Appropriate \$128 million (a state net of \$67 million after federal reimbursement) in new funding for community nonprofits in Fiscal Year 2021, a 7% increase;
3. Index increases to inflation, to ensure that state funding will keep pace with increased costs in the future.

As a nonprofit agency CW Resources continues to struggle to provide meaningful services to individuals who have every right to work and be as successful as possible. CW has managed to handle the increasing financial pressures due to not receiving annual increases and overall increases in cost through diversifying into other areas. In order to be able to continue to provide services to those who most need them we have had to look to other sources to generate revenue to help support our agency as well as our most valued programs. We do without many things in our programs that would be beneficial and attempt to keep operational costs as low as possible to make money go as far as it can. Please help us so that we may continue to provide much needed services to the many that are in desperate need of what we have to offer.

Tracey Miller
Rehabilitation Coordinator
CW Resources - New Britain, Ct.