

February 20, 2020

Testimony of Lynn Evans:

I thank you for your time and consideration in listening to my story. I am now a member of InterCommunity's Common Ground Social Club. I would like to thank the Governor for keeping the current budget free from further cuts this year. I urge the appropriations committee to consider the impact on the minimum wage increases to non-profits like InterCommunity when they have received cuts or flatline funding while the rainy-day budget is bulging. As a consumer, I have been using several services that have helped me to get me back on my feet, helped with my depression, my moving and relocation after my husband of 40 years passed away last year.

Joining Common Ground has changed my life. I've learned that my advocacy group with keep the promise has made me become a better person and learn to get on and stay on the road to recovery while advocating for others.

After suffering from mental illness and trauma for many years, I now can travel with our groups and keep a level head. I have helped organize several programs. I have realized a better relationship with myself and my family after overcoming depression. I still have a way to go and recovery is for life. I know I can conquer my problems and keep my depression under control, so that I can function and maintain my work and social obligations. My suggestion would be to give the DMHAS more funding to give seniors the programs they need to remain active in their communities and maintain stability in their lives.

Thanks again for listening to a very concerned citizen and registered voter of Manchester, CT.

Sincerely,

Lynne Evans