

Good evening,
My name is Edwin Aponte

I am a army verteran in recovery from alcohol and substance abuse, I am
Here today to share my concerns regarding DHMAS budget cuts.

I am a volunteer at CCAR, CT community for addiction and recovery in New Haven.
I started drinking at an early age of 14 years old growing up in the projects of Bridgeport, CT.
This led to experimenting with marijuana and other drugs to which I came addicted to,
For over forty years I was a so called functioning addict and alcoholic,

I learned of CCAR through the VA Hospital while in rehab there.
Not only did CCAR give me a place to go but also how to stay positive in recovery,
At CCAR, there are many activities, meetings, and services that give me experience in how to
manage my sobriety and at the same time help others do the same.
I would not have been able to do it without the positive influence and passionate people at
CCAR
New Haven.

I urge you not to cut the DHMAS budget which will have an effect on not only CCAR but other
centers with resources to recovery.

THANK YOU..