

Written Statement of Beth L. Radcliff  
Volunteer  
Willimantic Recovery Community Center  
Concerning DMHAS funding  
Appropriations committee  
Friday, 02/21/2020

Senator Osten, Representative Walker, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding the CT DHMAS budget, an important resource to the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR.)

In my brief time volunteering with CCAR, I have learned more than I anticipated about myself. My path in recovery started in college, through separating myself slowly from a toxic home life in 2014. It has been a struggle, and although UConn has recovery support, I had limited access to it as a commuter student struggling with homelessness. And all through my recovery there were still struggles with co-occurring conditions, including severe and recurrent depression I have been struggling with since the age of 7. I may never truly be recovered; I may never utilize my potential to its fullest because of my struggles; but sure as the sun rises I am gonna keep volunteering and working on myself through CCAR. I support everything CCAR offers to the community, and I hope to see it expand to support the whole of Connecticut.

Expanding the resources CCAR has will allow this recovery network to reach everyone who needs it here in CT, and those resources heavily depend on the continued support of the CT DHMAS. I urge the committee to support ongoing and extended funding for the DHMAS so that CCAR can continue to provide the recovery support services to the communities it serves, and expand into surrounding areas.

Thank you for hearing/reading my testimony,

Beth L. Radcliff