

February 11, 2020

Good Afternoon Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Formica, Representative Laville, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. My name is Michelle Vargas and I am a women in long term recovery.

I am here to testify how Recovery has made an impact in my life and in my community. I come to you today with five years clean time from IV Crystal Methamphetamine.

This is something I could not accomplish on my own. This ladies and gentlemen has taken a village for me to achieve. There is absolutely no way I could have done this on my own.

My recovery has many different pathways which include 12 step fellowship, Dialectal Behavior Therapy groups, strong support network and the valuable resources of CCAR. These are the foundations to my main objective, which for me is to live the best life I was truly meant and deserve to have.

There was a time where i was living under a bridge, eating from garbage and estranged from my children and family because of my dependence to crystal meth.

Where I stand today as a responsible, stable mother and daughter with a drivers license, involved with the PTA at my daughter Edens school and showing others with a colorful past like myself that they too can have a beautiful life after Meth.

I have been empowered by my past experiences I lived thru and speak to those who feel defeated and disenfranchised and in a rut in their addiction.

Let my story be a testament to how the many pathways can bring a once invisible street addict to the women who speaks in front of you today who is dependable, responsible, honest, patient and courteous.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you and to my village which has become CCAR. Because of CCAR I have risen up out of my rut and have become the authentic mother, daughter and voting community member I am today. Recovery works I am hard facts.

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