



GILEAD

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Improving Lives, Building Futures

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DATE: March 2, 2021

TO: Appropriations Committee, Health Subcommittee

FROM: Tyler Johnson, Clinical Case Manager (GAP)

RE: H.B.6439 **An Act Adjusting The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June 13, 2023**

Good afternoon Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Miner, Representative France and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee. My name is Tyler Johnson I am a recent hire at Gilead's GAP program. First and foremost, I want to say that this organization's employee's performance every day since my onboarding February 19th, has gone above and beyond my expectations. I am deeply appreciative of the team that I have recently joined. However, from a new outsider looking in, I can see that a lot of my team's and this organization's amazing efforts have not been even remotely rewarded.

Many of the employees go above and beyond with managing these individuals' cases. Examples being using their own money to make a client's day, cleaning the residency (assisting in cleaning rooms, and common areas), stretching themselves as thin as a piece of paper to meet the needs of people that need us. My grievance is the fact that we are in a very hands on, clinical, managing, mentally demanding (especially during the pandemic), and expecting, but lovely field of employment. And individuals at Domino's Pizza can make more than us on any given shift. I have also been informed that there hasn't been a substantial raise in over 15 years. The amount of work and care that goes into daily agenda's drastically outweigh the compensation that we are given. I can assure if you ask any employee they can give you a plethora of reasons on why they believe they deserve more than is given. Even a dollar would be the perfect incentive that keeps these employee's coming back with the smiles and care they give. I advocate for the full fund of \$461 million 5 year plan be put into place. Please think about it this way; if you had a loved one in one of these programs wouldn't you want the individuals that work with them, happy and to stick around for the long haul? There seems to be a high turn around rate of employees in this field, I believe this is strictly due to the compensation for services. These employees deserve this and need this during these trying times and for times to come. Like our CEO Mr. Osborne put it, I implore that you act on what you know is right!

Respectfully,

Tyler Johnson
Clinical Case Manager
Gilead Community Services

Administration • 222 Main St. Extension, P.O. Box 1000 • Middletown, CT 06457 • (860) 343-5300 • Fax (860) 343-5306 • www.gileadcs.org

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