

Testimony before the Appropriations Committee
March 2, 2021
DMHAS BUDGET HEARING
H.B. No. 6439, AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM
ENDING JUNE 30, 2023 AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR
Pedro Montalvo

Good Evening Senator Osten, Representative Walker and members of the Appropriations Committee.

My Name is Pedro Montalvo and I am a registered voter in the City of Bridgeport.

I am testifying regarding House Bill No. **6439, An Act Concerning the State Budget for The Biennium Ending June 30, 2023 And Making Appropriations Therefor.**

I have been a member of Bridge House for 13 years. Before starting at Bridge House I was homeless and living in the streets. Bridge House has helped me and other members so much. Bridge House helped me to get my housing and I am still living in my apartment. I thank BH for helping me get housing. I honestly don't know what would have happened to me had Bridge House not been there for me. I thank Bridge House so much!

I feel that Bridge House needs to stay open. These programs need to be funded and kept going so I respectfully ask for an increase in funding. Bridge House means a lot to me and to a lot of its members. I feel that we need to keep it going because we need these mental health services, especially because of this pandemic. A lot of members want to keep going to Bridge House. It is a good resource to members like me. They have a very good program of providing meals at home to those who can't go out on stormy days and because of the coronavirus. I would like to see this program kept going and staying active because we really do need these services.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my testimony.