

**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 THEREFORE**

Caridad Rosado

Good evening, Sen. Osten, Rep. Walker and members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Caridad Rosado and I am a registered voter in the City of Milford.

I am testifying regarding the budget for the next fiscal year for the Department of mental Health and Addiction Services, **H.B. No. 6439, An Act Concerning the State Budget for The Biennium Ending June 30, 2023 And Making Appropriations Therefore.**

I have been a member of Bridge House in Bridgeport for many years. Since the pandemic began in March of last year I have stayed connected to the Bridge House staff and members by phone, email and through their private virtual community. I am thankful to have this connection, it's so hard to be home for any length of time with nothing to do, being isolated from my clubhouse and friends. The other connection I have also had the good fortune to stay connected to is my church. Through the church I have delivered food to parishioners and also grocery shopped. Both my church and Bridge House have helped me to get through this pandemic.

Please consider this and increase the budget for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. These services are very vital to those of us living with mental health conditions.

Thank you for reading my testimony.