

Testimony in FAVOR of LD 714:

An act to create a sustainable funding source for Recovery Community Centers

May 8, 2023
Committee on Taxation
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
RE: Passage of LD 1714

Dear Senator Grohoski, Representative Perry and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation.

My name is Kylee Francis-Fowler I am a 33-year-old woman living with substance use disorder in the Penobscot County. I would like to share my testimony on much my local Recovery Centers has affected my life. I am a woman in Recovery and am living proof that recovery works. I first started at a sober woman's house in Portland frequenting the Portland Recovery Community Center PRCC participating in self-help groups and connection with others who also live with substance use disorder. I was able to ask others who have been in my same position for help. Having the connection was a huge part in finding my own purpose. I now live back in my hometown Community of Indian Island and have utilized the Bangor Area Recovery Network resources to explore how I wanted to make a difference. I now work as a Peer Recovery Advocate for the Penobscot Nation Healing to Wellness Court Program.

To me passing this bill will keep the doors of endless possibilities open for others who find their way through a door of a Recovery Center. Each person I've been able to share my story of strength and wisdom with will in turn share their own story to another person and this is the cycle I now live. Instead of the grips of active use where each day was as scary hopeless spiral. Having the funds to open more centers to exceed the demand. Maine is rural the need for a center close by for every community is doable. Please keep the doors of recovery open for anyone who wants. I couldn't think of where I would be right now without the PRCC and the BARN. I hope you all make the safe choice.

Sincerely,

Kylee Francis-Fowler

Peer Recovery Advocate for the Healing to Wellness Courts

Physical Address: 6 Down Street Indian Island, ME 04468

Mailing Address: 12 Wabanaki Way Indian Island, ME 04468

Kff@penobscotnation.org

207-827-3430(fax)

207-827-3415(main line)

207-217-0529(cell phone)