

Testimony in Favor of LD 1714

An Act To Create a Sustainable Funding Source for Recovery Community Centers

Committee on Taxation
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

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

Narcan and Recovery Community Centers Save Mainer's Lives

My name is Kole Taylor, I am a person in recovery I am the Recovery Coach Coordinator at the Bangor Area Recovery Network (BARN) in Brewer Maine I supervise a team of 10 Recovery Coaches I take the time to enhance my team's ability to have experience and training that will benefit them in their long-term career goals Such as having an Introduction to Harm Reduction and Narcan Administration Last week we had the opportunity to attend street outreach with several different community partners in helping our unsheltered community Within 20 minutes of our outreach, a gentleman had overdosed in front of our team We all acted quickly and efficiently We had a successful overdose reversal by using Narcan and utilizing the trainings we have received at the BARN Once the gentleman had been cleared by Emergency Services, we connected him to the support and appropriate resources the BARN has to offer

This is one of MANY different examples of how the BARN impacts the community in the Bangor Area The BARN is a safe and supportive space for those seeking recovery in whatever capacity that looks like for the individual By offering different trainings and educational activities the recovery coaches of the BARN saved a life in the community When LD1714 is passed we will continue to save more Mainer's lives

I have seen firsthand the miracles that walk in through the front door who celebrate days, months, and years of recovery time The Bangor Area Recovery Network is more than just a recovery center in the state of Maine Life continues to grow, people heal, stigma is broken, and WE DO RECOVER

I thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any questions

Sincerely,
Kole Taylor