

## Testimony in Favor of LD 1714

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

May 10th, 2023

Committee on Taxation  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Troy Hood  
Bangor, ME 04401

Re Passage of LD 1714

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

My name is Troy Hood. I am a volunteer at the Bangor Area Recovery Network. Something I have realized since coming to the BARN is that the BARN helps people stay off the streets and out of trouble. They have an amazing support system. The minute I walked in I was treated like family. They have provided a lot of special events for volunteers and the community as well as outreach programs. My family has been going through a lot and we needed help. We went everywhere asking for help picking up a bed and the BARN and the volunteers were happy to transport the bed for us on a Sunday afternoon. If I didn't have the BARN, I don't know where I would be. This past week I went bowling for the first time in my life. It was an amazing time. This community recovery center has helped me with my math skills, my social skills, and my confidence.

Since coming to the BARN, I have obtained a Recovery Coach and he helps me when I need someone to talk to. He helps me find recovery meetings. He goes with me to meetings when I'm too nervous to go by myself and he sticks by my side no matter what. The BARN is willing to help anyone who walks through the doors. The BARN doesn't just help people with substance use disorder; they help anyone who needs it. The BARN staff and volunteers don't judge people; they welcome them.

I believe it is important to fund recovery centers because people need places to make friends and find resources.

Sincerely,

Troy Hood