

My name is Kaitlyn Engelhardt, and I am a person in recovery from substance use disorder, I am also a volunteer at the Bangor Area Recovery Network in Brewer Maine. Today I am urging people of the Appropriations committee to fund LD 1714 to make sure places like the BARN can continue to help people like me.

Volunteering at Bangor Area Recovery Network has given me more than I have ever imagined. It has provided me a safe place. I was terrified the first time I came to the BARN, in a room of more than 75 people, I felt alone. Since that day six months ago, you can find me at the BARN almost every single day. It has given me a purpose, a safe environment and authentic connections and community of friends pertinent to my recovery.