



*A new day, a new beginning....a new life*

# Daniel Carl Torsch Foundation Inc

February 25, 2024

Delegate Rosenberg  
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Delegate Rosenberg and Health and Government Operations Committee Members,

I am writing in support of House Bill 980 “Public Health – Opioid Restitution Advisory Council and Fund – Revisions”

As someone who as personally over came over a decade of opioid & opiate use, I cannot stress enough how much help I’ve got from a variety of different foundations and agencies. I would not be here today were it not for ease of access to Narcan and the life saving methods taught by many places. I spent almost 9 years in Maryland Department of Corrections. Unfortunately, that just isn’t a good environment to rehabilitate. The help that truly saved my life came from people on this side of the wall. There has been plenty of road stops along the way & I lost many friends at those stopping points. At the variety of things that can hold you up from getting a bed at treatment. Whether it be lack of funding or detox beds, open sores, unable to be accommodated medically or mentally, even things like active warrants for petty theft & shop lifting. Those are just a few things that can stop someone from being able to capitalize on a moment of clarity for the few fleeting seconds they have it. If only we had been able to stream line that process or even speed it up just a bit there’s no telling how many people, we could have saved. Fortunately we are starting to make progress but we still have long way to go. In this moment you have the ability to either be a stepping stone or a road block. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Tom Gallagher  
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[www.dctfoundationinc.org](http://www.dctfoundationinc.org)

*Mission: to provide charitable assistance to low income adults for substance abuse treatment; to promote and provide overdose prevention training and awareness. 501 (c)(3) non profit #45-3123369*