



# Pyramid Healthcare

AN INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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The Hon. Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk, Chair  
Health and Government Operations Committee  
Maryland General Assembly  
241 Taylor House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Hon. Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair  
Health and Government Operations Committee  
Maryland General Assembly  
241 Taylor House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: Pyramid Healthcare Testimony in Favor of House Bill 690 – an Act Concerning Overdose Awareness Day**

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and distinguished members of the Committee:

The Pyramid Healthcare, Inc. (“Pyramid Healthcare”) family of companies submits the following testimony urging the Committee to favorably report HB 690, An Act Concerning Overdose Awareness Day. Doing so will support Marylanders struggling with substance use disorder (“SUD”) challenges related to the opioid epidemic.

Pyramid Healthcare is an integrated behavioral healthcare system serving Medicaid and commercial clients in 8 states across a continuum of residential and outpatient substance use disorder (“SUD”), mental health, autism, and eating disorder treatment services. We employ over 3,600 team members across our 80+ active facilities which treat approximately 14,000 clients on any given day. In Maryland, we operate five locations serving over 2,000 residents per year: a withdrawal management & residential treatment center and an outpatient treatment center in California, a withdrawal management & residential treatment center in Charlotte Hall, and a withdrawal management & residential treatment center in Joppa. In January 2025, our new Prince George’s County facility began treating clients. That facility will ultimately offer approximately 75 withdrawal management & residential SUD treatment beds for adult residents of Prince George’s County and throughout central Maryland. In total, we have almost 275 licensed SUD residential treatment beds for adult Medicaid clients across the state.

For the first time, deaths from drug overdoses have finally declined. Still, nearly 100,000 Americans die every year from fentanyl and other opioid overdoses. These declines are due to the many years of hard work improving access to treatment, especially for those who are covered by Medicaid. Now is not the time to give up the fight which has realized such positive results.

Please consider this feedback and favorably adopt HB 690 to make August 31<sup>st</sup> Overdose Awareness Day in Maryland and to address substance use disorders and, specifically, the ongoing opioid epidemic. Thank you for your support of mental health and substance use disorder treatment providers in Maryland and for considering our policy proposals and recommendations on behalf of Pyramid Healthcare. If we can provide any additional information or materials, please contact me at [crosier@pyramidhc.com](mailto:crosier@pyramidhc.com) or 667-270-1582. In addition, we invite you or a member of the staff to reach out and schedule a visit to one of our Maryland locations sometime soon to learn more about our programs and services.

Sincerely,

Dominic Barone, LSW, LCADC, CCS, CPRS  
Vice President of Operations (Residential)

Collan B. Rosier  
Vice President of Government Relations

**CC: Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee**  
**Michelle Firmin, Assistant to the Chair**