

February 29, 2024

RE: SB0751 - Opioid Restitution Advisory Council and Fund - Revisions

Good Afternoon,

My name is Hanna Jones, I am the Supervisor of the Daniel Carl Torsch Foundation and in favor of SB0751.

This bill affects me both personally and professionally. I am an individual who at one point in my life could have greatly benefited from community based services. Instead I went through institutions and homelessness and eventually prison. Recovery is such a broad spectrum and without community based support often people fail to succeed simply due to lack of support in their own community.

As the supervisor of a community based organization who came from a hospital based setting I see daily the benefit of community based services/organizations. Maryland is not lacking when it comes to treatment centers, but the gap that needs to be filled is in the community. From youth to adult services this is where the need is and the impact can truly be made. By meeting people where they are and providing support, basic needs, and recovery support services we can provide early intervention, which has proven to reduce overdose deaths, recidivism rates and recurrent ER/hospitalzations.

Your support of SB0751 can truly make a difference in this uphill battle. Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully request a favorable report on this bill.

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