



266 Hillsmere Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21403
www.serenitysistas.org
(443) 214-5526

I write in today in support (FAV) of House Bill 0448.

Good afternoon, Delegate Rosenberg, supporting Delegates and members of the House Health Committee.

My name is Angel Traynor, and I am the Founder of Serenity Sistas Recovery Homes. Since 2012, our organization has provided safe, structured, and recovery-oriented housing for women, men, and parents with children who are rebuilding their lives after substance use treatment. Every day, we see what stable recovery housing makes possible reunified families, parents regaining custody, individuals returning to work, being productive citizens while finding hope and dignity again.

Accountability and oversight are essential. Recovery housing should be safe, ethical, and truly recovery focused. Regular, unannounced inspections help ensure that standards are being upheld and that residents are protected. I fully support efforts to strengthen quality assurance, eliminate bad actors, while protecting state and opioid abatement funds from misuse. Our residents deserve environments that promote healing not exploitation. Unfortunately, not every operator shares that commitment. Poor actors damage trust, harm vulnerable individuals, and undermine the work of providers who are acting in the best interest of their residents. Strong oversight helps distinguish ethical, mission-driven programs from those who should not be serving this population.

At the same time, I respectfully ask that implementation of this bill be thoughtful and collaborative.

Recovery residences are not institutions, they are homes. They operate with limited budgets and thin margins while providing 24/7 support. Compliance systems must be clear, consistent, and supportive rather than purely punitive. When deficiencies are identified, providers should have meaningful guidance and technical assistance to correct them quickly so that residents are not unintentionally displaced or destabilized.

Recovery housing is often the bridge between treatment and long-term recovery when we strengthen that bridge responsibly and collaboratively. Treatment levels of care 3.1-3.7 depend on recovery homes as we are the end of the continuum of care helping individuals get back on their feet, back to their families and back into the community. Run ethically we restore, we save lives, strengthen families, and protect public investment.

I welcome the opportunity to sit down with the bill sponsors and with Chair Bagnall to share the perspective of an experienced recovery housing provider. Together, we can ensure the bill addresses unsafe or unethical operators while also protecting high-quality homes that are already doing this work with integrity. Our shared goal should be both accountability and sustainability.

Thank you for your leadership and for the opportunity to testify. I look forward to partnering with you to make Maryland's recovery housing system stronger and safer for everyone we serve.

Respectfully,

Angel Traynor

410-507-7583 | Cell Phone
serenitysista1@gmail.com