

RPV DSU Prevention

February 11, 2026

Chair, Vice Chair and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. My name is Astrid Bradish-Hoyt. I'm a person in long-term recovery and the CEO of Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield.

I'm here to talk about the importance of Recovery Coaching at our Center.

We're asking the legislature to please renew the \$800,000 we received in prevention funds in FY26, in order to level fund recovery centers and preserve current services in a time when recovery centers are facing increased demand.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. Peer recovery is about people & connection. It's about interrupting death, rising from the ashes. And, it's about community reintegration. It's about learning to adapt and to live.

As the leader of a Turning Point, I get to be a part of others' recovery journeys.

I want to illustrate impact we get to have on people's lives:

Like with M: While interviewing a potential guest for our transitional living, a Coach shared a connection with the interviewee; it had been about a year since they'd met as Coach and participant for the 1st time. And then she'd moved away. Upon her return, she sought out services once again to support her ongoing recovery. The Coach barely recognized the woman standing before us. The woman remarked 'I remember you; you're the man that helped save my life! You helped me get on this road'. This woman continues to receive coaching at our center and credits Turning Point coaches with demonstrating a life saving choice for her and her family.

To J, who credits Coach Jon as the man who 'saved my life'. I didn't know I could build a life, any life.' J is now a year in recovery, and guides others in their recovery journey, volunteers at the Center and gardens in the summer.

We also provide vital on-demand services. Our long standing support line is available 24/7. Folks can call or text and talk with a nationally certified Coach day or night. This may mean the difference between returning to use or talking through choices. Life or death. Our drop

in Center is staffed for folks seeking services such as navigation of treatment, referrals to behavioral health, and human services like food clothing and housing. We offer support groups every day between our 3 locations in Springfield, Windsor and Bellows Falls.

We have the opportunity to walk alongside people as they rebuild their lives, reconnect with family, be parents, brother, sisters, husbands, and wives. And live lives built on integrity and hope. Without the financial support to continue to keep our doors open, our services robust, and being there in people's time of need, folks like me may have chosen death without peer support.

Again, we ask that you renew the \$800,000 we received in prevention funds in FY26, in order to level fund recovery centers and preserve current services.

Thank you for your time and your commitment~