

Cummings u.c.



**FACES & VOICES
OF RECOVERY**

May 28, 2019

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
United States House of Representatives
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Cummings,

On behalf of Faces & Voices of Recovery, as well as the Association of Recovery Community Organizations, we wish to offer support for the CARE Act. While Congress has done much in recent years to address the scourge of addiction, it is still a tremendous blemish on our nation, and we are pleased to see legislation such as this attempt to alleviate its devastating effects.

Founded in 2001, Faces & Voices of Recovery is dedicated to organizing and mobilizing the over 23 million Americans in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, our families, friends and allies into recovery community organizations and networks, to promote the right and resources to recover through advocacy, education and demonstrating the power and proof of long-term recovery. Through the Association of Recovery Community Organizations (ARCO), we unite and support the growing network of local, regional and statewide recovery community organizations (RCOs).

We are quite pleased that the CARE act recognizes the role of recovery support services, and input from those who administer these programs. As localities and communities seek to improve their respective responses to the opioid epidemic and other addictions, recovery support services will play a central role. By assisting people who have recently completed treatment- many of whom are recently released from incarceration- recovery support services enable people to return to a community where they have the chance to thrive. Currently, recovery support services do not receive the resources of treatment or prevention. This must be remedied if we are to see a truly robust response to our current epidemic. Addiction is a chronic disease, and people who defeat it only do so with a lifetime of support.

We look forward to supporting this legislation for the rest of the 116th Congress.

Sincerely,

Patty McCarthy Metcalf
Executive Director
Faces and Voices of Recovery

ADVOCATE. ACT. ADVANCE.