



The Substance Use and  
Mental Health Leadership Council of RI

H8417 May 5<sup>th</sup> 2026

Mr. Chairman and Members of the committee

The Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council of RI is in strong support of H8417 for the RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO THRIVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, INC. TO SUPPORT THE HILLSGROVE CLUBHOUSE PROGRAM

Here are the reasons why!

Established in 1991 as a Fountain House Model Psycho-Social/Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program ➤ 1st Accredited Clubhouse in Rhode Island by Clubhouse International ➤ The only Accredited Clubhouse in Rhode Island since 2020 ➤ Current Three-Year Accreditation received March 2024 (Expires March 2027) ➤ Co-Recipient of the Conrad Hilton Humanitarian Award in 2016 ➤ Active members from all 5 Rhode Island Counties Current active members referred by: Thrive Behavioral Health 105 Gateway/Brown Health 37 Private AOP 9 Newport Mental Health 3 Healthpath 3 The Providence Center 2 Butler Hospital 2 Monarch 2 Quality Behavioral Health 2 CCAP 1 East Bay Community Action 1 ➤ Licensed by the RI Department of Behavioral Health Developmental Disability and Hospitals (BHDDH) ➤ Licensed by the RI Department of Health Office of Food Protection ➤ Qualified Participant in the Rhode Island Department of Education Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) o Federal Funding from the USDA offers free meals and reduced cost meals to members meeting federal low household income standards o Served 12,950 free Nutritious Meals over the past 12 months ➤ Qualified vendor for the Federally Funded Rhode Island Office of Rehabilitation Services o Contracted provider of Vocational Evaluations, Job Preparation, Job Development and Placement, Job Retention, and Travel Training services for reimbursement o 170 Current Active Members - 285 Alumni Members - 1034 Total Individual Members since 1991 o 45 Active Members Employed in Competitive, Integrated Community Based Employment o 52% of our Active Members with an employment goal are currently employed o 12 Members Enrolled in Education Program over the past 12 months o 3 Members currently enrolled in degree programs o 100% of our members report that at Hillsgrove Clubhouse they get the help they need when they need it o 97% of our members report that Hillsgrove has helped them be more independent o 97% of members report that the Clubhouse has helped them improve their mental wellness o 89% of members report that they feel good about themselves

John J. Tassoni, Jr

President / CEO