

29 January 2019

## House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee Testimony Neutral on House Bill 2045

Chairman Jennings and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I am Stuart Little, President of the Behavioral Health Association of Kansas (BHAK), the State's trade organization dedicated solely to substance use disorders treatment and prevention providers seeking integrated behavioral health care. BHAK believes that true integrated behavioral health means access and funding for mental illness and substance use disorder treatment without regard to where our consumers seek services in the publicly funded behavioral health system. A member organization map is attached.

We support the Senate Bill 123 treatment program and would support House Bill 2045 to make the correction to legislation you passed in 2018. However, as we testified on the bill last year, the State should not add offenders to the Senate Bill 123 without funding to serve the expansion. There is funding in the Governor's budget recommendation to fund the cost of services related to this population increase. With approval of the funding, this bill would expand on the benefits and wise investment in treatment. We will advocate for increased funding at the appropriate venue.

Our membership is the largest provider group in Kansas offering this treatment rather than incarceration program. Most of our membership has worked with the Kansas Sentencing Commission and the Department of Corrections since the inception of the program. The Kansas Sentencing Commission has been a vigilant administrator of the program and continues to pursue innovations to ensure careful oversight while continuing to ensure timely provider payments. We know Senate Bill 123 treatment works and saves the State resources. If you add more participants without funding, however, you will dilute and diminish the ability of the treatment to accomplish the goals you established.

Stuart J. Little, Ph.D., President Behavioral Health Association of Kansas 800 SW Jackson St., Ste. 1100 Topeka, Kansas 66612 785-845-7265 Mobile https://www.bhakansas.com stuartjlittle@mac.com

## Behavioral Health Association of Kansas Member Service Locations\*



<sup>\*</sup>Physical locations serve consumers in a broader geographic region, particularly residential programs.





















New Dawn: Shawnee

800 SW Jackson St., Ste. 1100 Topeka, KS 66612 Stuart J. Little, Ph.D. (785) 730-3209

## BHAK PUBLIC POLICY NETWORK

City on a Hill: Finney, Scott, Seward, Dickinson, Geary, McPherson, Saline, Shawnee CKF Addiction Treatment: Ashby House: Saline

Corner House: Lyon Mirror, Inc.: Barber, Brown, Doniphan, DCCCA: Crawford, Douglas, Pratt, Sedgwick, Shawnee, Sumner, Reno, Wymidotte Wymidotte Williams, Sedgwick, Shawnee, Trego Wymidotte Sedwick, Shawnee, Trego Wymidotte Higher Ground: Sedgwick

New Chance: Ford

Valley Hope Association: Norton, Atchison, Johnson, Sedgwick, McPherson Preferred Family Healthcare: Cowley, Sims-Kemper: Shawnee Johnson, Sedgwick