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Greetings. My name is Steven F. and I'm glad of an opportunity to express my appreciation for the Next Steps Rental Assistance Program. and to let those few people that have the authority and responsibility to oversee this program and others like it. Its hard to communicate the great difference it has made in my life. It truly is a miracle from Jesus to whom I've prayed for help. Yes the State made the program but the fact that it was me who has recieved this great help I attribute to His mercy. to me its truly a miracle.

I am coming out of a history of drugs, crime, and incarceration. Many times I've put away the drugs and stopped the crime and started to live right only to have the loss of a job, and then housing, contribute to another downfall. Now I have hope. I'm living without illegal drugs and crime. I'm not rich but I am very content grateful. For the first time in many years I have stability and my own small apartment and I am sure I will be gainfully employed soon I like Willimantic Ct. and want to be a productive member of my Church + community Society. I can't tell you how utterly miserable + hopeless I was for many years. God Bless

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I also would very much ~~want~~ like to let you know that the case workers and those people who have oversite of me in regard to RAP are wonderfull, caring and efficient. People, like Cathy Cementina and Kim Lindell are making a good difference in lives and in the community. They both worked with me and encouraged me thru the process of recieving the RAP certificate. Please continue to fund programs like these. There is a great need and I know of many people who just don't seem to be able to climb out of the vicious cycle of homelessness If they lose a job, get sick, or whatever. There they are back on the street, in shelters, or jail. Or dead. Now I want to give back and live right to show my gratitude to God and this Community.

God Bless You,
Steven F.