

**Recovery Housing**  
**Support for individuals trying to stay sober**  
**AND**  
**An Economic Strategy for the State of VT**

**Support for people trying to stay sober:** The people in a Foundation Recovery House form a bond similar to a family. They help and support each other, creating the ideal environment for someone to adjust back into society following a period of addiction.

**An Economic Strategy: Reduce the number of people who are ready to be released from VT prisons, but are held for lack of an approved residence, making room for people VT is currently sending to out-of state facilities.** Current statistics estimate 80% of offenders currently in VT jails have been convicted of an alcohol or drug related crime. The numbers below represent the idea of providing space for 10 inmates ready to be released who want to actively pursue recovery to move into Recovery Housing. We do not propose another half-way house. We have found that one person coming into a Recovery Home along with 4-6 people who are not leaving a correctional facility is a successful ratio.

**Average Cost of Living for a person living in a VFOR Recovery Home: \$52.00 per day**

- average residence cost per person: \$25.00/day
- Average Grocery and Health Insurance (both of these are provided to those housed in our corrections system) coverage: \$27.00/day

\*Once a member of our Recovery Homes has a job, they are able to contribute towards these expenses, and the costs decrease significantly

**Average Cost for a VT inmate being housed at an out-of-state correctional facility: \$70.76/day**

- On page 55 of the FY15 Corrections Budget <http://www.doc.state.vt.us/about/reports/fy-2015-budget-presentation/view> it shows in FY2013 we spent a total of \$12,861,316 on 498 inmates out of state. This creates an average of \$70.76 per person per day.

**Savings if we housed 10 people in VFOR Foundation Recovery Houses, and were able to bring 10 people back to VT correctional facilities: \$18.76 per person per day or \$68,474 for 10 people/ year.**

- \$70.76 out of state cost of corrections per person, per day - \$52.00 cost to support a person in a VFOR Recovery Home = \$18.76 less per person per day.
- \$18.76 x 365days=\$6,847.40 less per person per year.
- \$6,847.4 x 10people= \$68,474.00 in savings annually.

**A Strategy that is better for Vermonters.**

- In one year by the State of Vermont investing \$91,250.00 (25.00 x 365 x 10 = \$91,250) into Recovery Housing, 10 people get better health care, better food, better support, and a real chance at recovery while the State of Vermont saves \$68,474.00.
- Over time, the people who recover will be contributing to society at a much higher level than those rejoining our communities after being released from a prison they have been kept in out of state.

**There are more benefits to sober housing than money but at a time when we are scrutinizing every penny spent this analysis provides motivation to pursue Recovery Housing aggressively.**