

O.C.C. Call to Action, January 2018

- ◆ “Recovery Residences are a central component of successful long-term recovery”
 - Along with services and communities without stigma
- ◆ “Vermont’s regions vary widely in housing and program availability.”
- ◆ “There is a lack of recovery housing quality standards in Vermont and a registry of certified recovery residences does not exist.”
- ◆ Surveyed professionals serving people with SUD and found:
 - 99% of respondents engage in conversations with clients around their housing needs
 - 51% stated that the majority of their clients have housing situations that are interfering with their recovery efforts
 - Greatest challenge is a lack of recovery/sober living environments and affordable housing

What are Recovery Residences?

- ◆ Vermont's regions vary widely in housing and program availability."
- ◆ Recovery Residences are synonymous with sober housing, one type of recovery support.
- ◆ A shared-living environment free from alcohol and illicit drug use, centered on peer support and connections that promote sustained recovery from substance use
- ◆ RRs range in type and intensity of services with options that cost-effectively match the diverse and changing needs of residents; our first focus in on Level 1
- ◆ For successful recovery we need homes, services and strong supportive communities free of stigma




Housing: A Critical Link to Recovery report, March 2019
- Themes -

- ◆ Vermont has a serious Substance Use Disorder problem affecting 1 in 10 individuals over 12 years of age.
- ◆ About 1200 individuals would benefit from access to a recovery residence.
- ◆ Currently, there are 212 beds in the state, not the right mix by population served and/or geographic location.
- ◆ $\frac{3}{4}$ of Vermonters in treatment are Medicaid eligible meaning nearly all of them are Extremely Low Income.
- ◆ Report will be released through a Governor's Press conference in early March.

A light teal map of Vermont is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the dark green header. The map shows the state's outline with some internal details like major roads or water bodies.

Downstreet's Statewide Coordination of Housing for People & Families Affected by SUD

- ◆ **Comprehensive housing needs study**
- ◆ **Vermont Alliance of Recovery Residences (VTARR)**
- ◆ **Strong partnership between housing and service providers (on-going), working on reducing evictions**
- ◆ **Housing Developer's toolkit**
- ◆ **Rental Assistance fund for certified recovery residences**
- ◆ **Family SASH pilot**
- ◆ **Coalition of supporters, communities support people in recovery**



How Can You Help?

- ◆ Full funding for VHCB
- ◆ Rental assistance funding request in 2020
- ◆ Support act relating to residential agreements for substance use recovery homes – H.223
- ◆ Support bill that defines municipal zoning
- ◆ Create supportive communities

