



Recovery Residence Communities – Shared Vision of Success

January 23, 2020
presented by Eileen Peltier, Downstreet

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

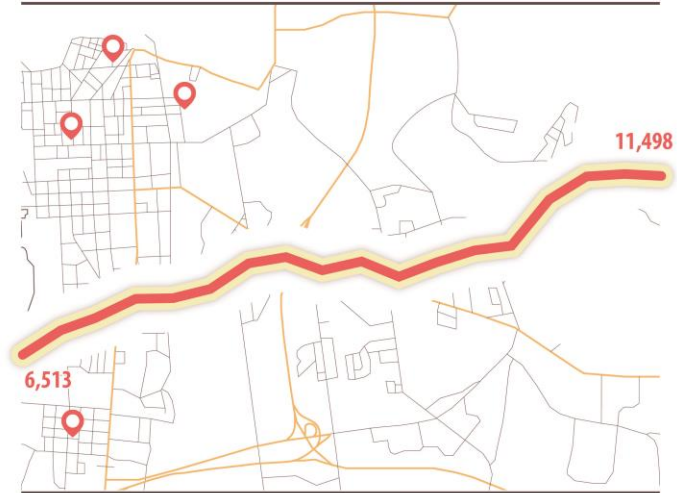
Recovery Residence Communities – **Shared Vision of Success**

- Community is the foundational to recovery
- RR's combine housing and a connection to services in a peer supportive environment.
- RR's are person-centered
- RR's are one of many choices for people dealing with Substance Use Disorder
- A shortened length of stay in inpatient treatment (15-17 days) makes the need for a strong statewide recovery system including RR's even more critical.
- Successfully “recovering” from SUD is a day to day journey. Relapse is expected
- AHS and housing community are working with the same individuals and families. We share a common mission, common clients and common challenges
- H223 is needed to support the successful scaling up and operation of RR's.

HOUSING: A CRITICAL LINK TO RECOVERY

An Assessment of the Need for

RECOVERY RESIDENCES In Vermont



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Prepared for
DOWNSTREET HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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Housing: A Critical Link to Recovery report, March 2019

- Themes -

- ◆ Vermont has a serious Substance Use Disorder problem affecting 52,000 residents or 1 in 10 individuals over 12 years of age. Only DC has a higher concentration of substance use disorder.
- ◆ $\frac{3}{4}$ of Vermonters in treatment are Medicaid eligible meaning nearly all of them are Extremely Low Income.
- ◆ The rate of SUD is greatest among Vermonters aged 18-25. Within this cohort, 22.7% have a SUD, a level that is a startling 51% higher than the national rate for this age group.

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

- ◆ About 1200 individuals would benefit from access to a recovery residence.
- ◆ Currently, there are 212 beds in the state
- ◆ 73% of these existing beds re reserved for men and 24% for women, despite the fact that women currently make up 42% of all Vermonters receiving treatment for SUD.
- ◆ 65% of the current RR beds are in Chittenden County though it makes up only 24% of the total person receiving SUD treatment statewide.
- ◆ Only one RR provides housing for mothers with independent children. Operators were nearly unanimous in prioritizing women with dependent children as the population in greatest need of a RR option.

Need for Recovery Residences by Community

Hub Community & Counties Served	For Men	For Women or Women with Dependent Children
Middlebury Addison County	1	0
Bennington Bennington County	1	1
St. Johnsbury Caledonia Co. & Essex Co.	1	2
Burlington & S. Burlington Chittenden County	0	1
St. Albans Franklin Co. & Grand Isle Co.	3	4
Morrisville Lamoille County	2	1
Newport Orleans County	1	1
Rutland Rutland County	3	4
Barre-Berlin Washington County	0	3
Brattleboro Windham County	0	1
Springfield & White River Junction Windsor County	2	0
Randolph (With Presence of Hub) Orange County	1	1
Total Number of Homes Needed	15	19

A light teal map of the state of Vermont is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the dark green header.

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

- ◆ Comprehensive housing needs study (DONE)
- ◆ Vermont Alliance of Recovery Residences (VTARR)
- ◆ Housing Developer's toolkit (DONE)
- ◆ Rental Assistance fund for certified RR's
- ◆ State and Federal Funding Status
- ◆ RR for parents with children
- ◆ Legislative Agenda

Recovery Residence Communities – Shared Vision of Success

H223

- ◆ SUD is a disability. No discrimination.
- ◆ Successful recovery needs communities that embrace SUD as a disease and respond accordingly.
- ◆ Lack of zoning standards are a barrier to RR development
- ◆ The safety of all RR residents is paramount
- ◆ H223 is urgently needed