

Astrid Bradish-Hoyt, CEO, Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield, VT  
RPV Member  
Request: Opioid Settlement Funding for Recovery Residences  
February 18, 2026

Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

My name is Astrid Bradish-Hoyt, I'm a person in long-term recovery, and I serve as CEO of Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield, a member organization of Recovery Partners of Vermont. I am writing today to respectfully ask for your support of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Council's recommendation to allocate \$1.75 million to sustain operational support for recovery residences across Vermont.

Recovery residences are a critical component of our state's recovery continuum of care. They provide safe, structured, substance-free living environments where individuals can stabilize, build recovery capital, and prepare for independent living.

At Turning Point, we've operated two recovery residences for many years. Our Springfield-based home is entering its 17th year. Through this work, we've witnessed firsthand the profound role recovery housing plays in long-term recovery outcomes, particularly for individuals transitioning from incarceration, treatment, or homelessness.

I'd like to share the story of one former guest.

This individual entered our Transitional Housing Program directly following residential treatment. They arrived with no personal belongings, little hope of starting a new life, and limited employment history. Like many residents, they were navigating early Recovery alongside significant anxiety about what came next.

During their time with us, they engaged fully in house programming, worked weekly with their Recovery Coach, and began attending Recovery meetings daily. Within a few months, they secured part-time employment, which later grew into a full-time position. As stability increased, so did their confidence. They began repairing relationships with their kids and working toward financial independence.

After successfully completing the program, they transitioned to independent housing in the community, allowing them to have part-time custody of their children. Today, they remain employed, housed, and actively engaged in their Recovery. They often come to visit, fellowship around a meal, and talk with others about their hope & the proof that long-term recovery is possible.

This story isn't unique. It reflects what we see time & again when individuals are given the time, safety, and peer support necessary to rebuild their lives.

Recovery residences do far more than provide housing. They create stability during one of the most vulnerable periods in recovery- the transition back into the community.

Operating these homes, however, requires sustained investment. Rising property costs, staffing needs, certification requirements, and operational expenses place significant pressure on nonprofit providers working to maintain safe, high-quality recovery environments.

Maintaining the current level of operational support is essential, particularly as the number of Certified Recovery Residences continues to grow to meet statewide need.

People who receive strong wraparound Recovery supports, including stable recovery housing, are significantly less likely to return to use (RTU). Every RTU prevented correlates to cost savings across emergency care, hospitalization, and inpatient treatment services, the most costly and least preventative components of Vermont's substance use system of care.

Investing Opioid Settlement funding into recovery residences directly supports long-term recovery infrastructure and community health.

For these reasons, I respectfully restate my request that the Committee support the Opioid Settlement Advisory Council's recommendation to allocate \$1.75 million to sustain operational funding for recovery residence providers across Vermont.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your continued leadership in strengthening Vermont's Recovery continuum of care.