



# **S.157: VDH**

## **Recommendations**

***Presentation to the Legislature***

Vermont Department of Health  
Division Director Emily Trutor

January 21, 2026

# Presentation Focus: Recovery Residences



## Residential Treatment

- Treatment and clinical services with 24 hour, onsite supervision.
- Vermont has three levels of residential treatment that align with American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) levels of care:
  - 3.1: Low-Intensity, Clinically Managed
  - 3.5: High-Intensity, Clinically Managed
  - 3.7: Medically Managed

Example:  
Valley Vista



## Recovery Residence

- Shared living environments that offer peer support, assistance accessing support services.
- May provide case management and outpatient-related services.
- Vermont primarily offers Level 2 Recovery Residences per the National Association of Recovery Residences (NARR) certified care\*.

Example:  
Second Wind Foundation



## Recovery Center

- Open during the day for people seeking support in their recovery journey. RSOS offer a range of services including recovery coaching, support groups, referral to services and other peer support.
- No residential services available.
- Provide a safe and substance-free environment for people in all stages of recovery.

Example:  
Turning Point Center

### \*National Association of Recovery Residences (NARR) Certified Care

#### Level 1: Peer-run

Peer recovery support in a democratically run living environment.

#### Level 2: Monitored

Peer recovery support and staff-monitored structure.

#### Level 3: Supervised

Peer recovery support, staff-monitored structure plus structured (re)habilitation life skill development.

#### Level 4: Service Provider

Peer recovery support, staff-monitored, life skills and clinical programming.

# Recovery Residence Background



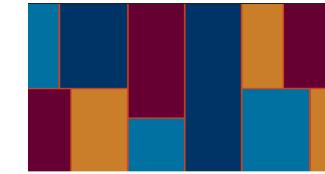
**8** organizations  
**29** locations  
**145** beds



[Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences \(VTARR\)](#)



[National Alliance for Recovery Residences](#)



**2025 Report to the Legislature:  
Assessment of Recovery Residences**

December 15, 2025

In Accordance with Act 163, Section 2, Assessment: Growth and Evaluation of Recovery Residences  
Submitted to: House Committee on Human Services  
Senate Committee on Health and Welfare  
Submitted by: Rick Holbrook, MD, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Health  
Prepared by: Vermont Department of Health

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[Assessment of Recovery Residences 2025 Report to the Legislature](#)

*Certified Recovery Residence Exit and Transfer Data Report to the Legislature (2/1/26)*

# S.157: An act relating to Recovery Residence Certification



*Create a Recovery Residence  
Certification Process*



*Establish Data Reporting  
Requirements*



*Modify the exclusion from the  
Landlord/Tenant Law*

# **Recovery Residence Certification**

# Certification – Current State



**VERMONT** ALLIANCE FOR  
RECOVERY RESIDENCES

[Vermont Alliance for Recovery  
Residences \(VTARR\)](#) offers **voluntary**  
certification to Recovery Residences

VDH doesn't oversee the certification process but provides  
oversight for grant agreements with Recovery Residences that  
receive funding from VDH

# Certification – Recommendation

## *VDH Recommendation*

### ***18 V.S.A. § 4806***

VDH recommends that the legislature grant authority under this section for VDH to establish and oversee a certification process for recovery residences. This will *align with VDH's oversight for other alcohol and drug treatment services.*

# **Recovery Residence Data Collection**

# Data Collection – Current State

Both VDH and VTARR require Recovery Residences to collect and report outcome data.



Applies to VDH-funded Recovery Residences

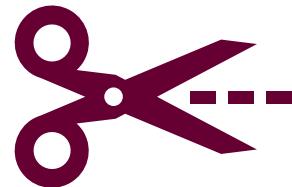
[Recovery Residence Outcomes for State Fiscal Year 2025](#)



Applies to VTARR-certified Recovery Residences

# Data Collection – Recommendation

## *VDH Recommendation*



VDH recommends that the legislature  
*eliminate specific data reporting  
requirements proposed in S. 157*



Continue to allow VDH and VTARR to  
*harmonize data collection & reporting  
requirements and align on meaningful  
outcomes measures*

# **Recovery Residence Exclusion from Landlord/Tenant Law**

# Exclusion from Landlord/Tenant Law – Current State



VTARR Certification allows *utilization of temporary exclusion* when critical criteria are met



Exclusion *sunset on 7/1/2026* without legislative action

# Exclusion from Landlord/Tenant Law – Recommendation

## *VDH Recommendation*



Make the *current exclusion permanent with modifications*



Add *additional situations to the criteria* for a resident to be exited



Limit exclusion to *certified recovery residences*

# S.157 – Summary of Recommendations

<p><i>S.157 Seeks to...</i></p>	 <p>Create a Recovery Residences Certification Process</p>	 <p>Establish Data Reporting Requirements</p>	 <p>Modify the exclusion from the Landlord/Tenant Law</p>
<p><i>VDH Recommendation</i></p>	<p>Grant authority for VDH to establish and oversee a certification process for recovery residences</p>	<p>Remove statutory reporting requirements proposed in S.157; harmonize data collection with VTARR</p>	<p>Make the current exclusion permanent with some modifications</p>

# Thank you!

## Let's stay in touch.

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