

# Recovery Partners of Vermont Annual Report July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Recovery Partners  
of Vermont

*Moving forward, together.*

*Promoting wellness for all who are affected by  
Substance or Alcohol Use Disorders*

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# Welcome from Gary De Carolis



*It is with great pride and excitement that I welcome you to our 2023 Annual Report. The information in this report for fiscal year 2023 (June 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) represents the second year of the Recovery Partners of Vermont. Our legal name remains Vermont Recovery Network but two years ago we went through a major overhaul of how we operate and, in this report, you will begin to see the fruits of our collective labor. All of the 2023 fiscal year's accomplishments highlight why we have the word Partners in our name. Only because of a collective team effort were we able to accomplish so much in one 12-month period.*

*When you think of putting on a conference and making a bold announcement that it will be free to all member organizations, their staff, board, and community partners, you know that it takes a team effort. And team effort it was! From the staff of Recovery Partners of Vermont to the Conference Committee members and our stellar Conference Manager Peter Edwards, we made it happen in a big and successful way. The evaluations were humbling!!! That alone would have been quite an accomplishment for any given year but noooooo we immediately pivoted and held a successful Legislative Breakfast and, with the help from the Action Circles team, we went on to gain the support of the Vermont State Legislature to increase base funding for many of our member recovery organizations by \$2,600,000 to be used for competitive staff wages and benefits. Neither of which our members ever had. Then there was the amazing private donor who granted us funds to pay the employer match for all full- and part-time employees so that our member recovery organizations could have dental and eye care insurance for the first time!!*

*Above were just a few of the many accomplishments of this past year. Our members have all been hard at work rebounding from the COVID-19 pandemic while continuing to do all they can to save lives of those that have an alcohol/substance use disorder. It has been tough. The Emergency Department Program has had a tremendous positive impact on getting people who meet with one of our recovery coaches to see treatment as an option in their life. We have given out countless Harm Reduction Bags that have fentanyl strips and Narcan to hopefully save lives for those that are still in active use of drugs. Our direct service members are at the job 365 days of the year, and there is no greater work than they do to both save and help rebuild the lives of thousands of Vermonters. Recovery is the Answer! Peer Support is the Way! is more than our conference title. It is the most powerful way to a new life in recovery. That is what we do. Enjoy browsing through our 2023 Annual Report.*

**Thank You!**



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## Our Mission...

*To support our member recovery organizations such that they can be world class establishments empowering all Vermonters and their families who are in recovery from alcohol or other substance use disorders.*

## ...and Vision

*We envision a recovery-oriented system of care that supports self-directed pathways to recovery by building on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families and communities.*



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# Board of Directors

- Lila Bennett
- Nancy Bassett
- Nellie Stidham
- David Riegel
- Shannon Carchidi
- Margae Diamond
- Will Eberle
- Michael Johnson, *President*
- Justin Johnston
- Stephen Kline
- Tracie Hauck
- Lee Larson, *Secretary*
- Cam Lauf
- Dawn Tatro
- Wendy Lawrence
- Eric Maguire, *Vice President*
- Bob Purvis
- Danielle Wallace
- Sheila Young, *Treasurer*
- Justin Johnson
- Kate Blouin (FY24)
- Jeff Moreau (FY24)





# New Members

- Turning Point Center of Addison County
- Recovery VT/VAMHAR
- Turning Point Center of Chittenden County
- Vermont Foundation of Recovery (VFOR)
- North Central VT Recovery Center
- Franklin County Turning Point (FY24)
- VT Association of Recovery Residences (FY24)



# New Staff

- Director of Development - Fundraising
- Director of Development - Grant Writing
- HR specialist contracted consultant, Management training



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# Peer Standards Audits

One of Recovery Partners of Vermont's main goals is to ensure that our members are delivering world-class services and supports to all of its thousands of Vermont guests. One instrument to assure a high quality of services and supports is to submit to a yearly peer standard review. A team made up of a member executive director from a different member recovery organization, at least one board member from the member being audited, executive director and information specialist of the Recovery Partners of Vermont, will perform the recovery organization audits. They will review the materials provided by each participating member and document the results.

## Our Standards

- Organizational Wellness
- Organization Quality
- Operational Standards  
(survey results)
- Recovery Services
- Leadership Administration
- Volunteer Development

Part of this process is sending out surveys to the very people that our members serve and to their community collaborators. These surveys are absolutely anonymous to create an environment of trust and promote honesty.



# Peer Standards Audits -Guest Testimonials-

*"The availability of TPAC staff within our local emergency room has been lifesaving. The collaboration between our organization about Recovery Bag distribution has also had a very positive and well received impact within Addison County. The additional support groups and meetings are meaningful and well organized and we appreciate all of the education and training they are able to share with our great non-profit social service organizations."*

*"North Central Vermont Recovery Center is very dear to me- I have seen first-hand how you can crawl up those steps and come out with the ability to walk. I've seen people become whole again- it's so wonderful to see people achieve sobriety and maintain it - NCVRC staff have helped so many people and families in this community- we are fortunate to have such a resource in our community."*

*"I've had a recovery coach through Turning Point for almost two years now. Having a recovery coach through this time has helped me in my recovery so much."*

*"The experience of meeting and talking to people successfully in recovery, leading happy productive lives was an eye opener. I was able to see what was possible for me."*

*"My experience started 4 years ago, with Turning Point coming into jail. I've held on ever since. I owe a lot to everyone that's involved.; I would like to share how extremely lucky Rutland is to have such a welcoming, supportive recovery center. Even though the outcome is not always as we anticipate, your focus, determination and hard work is quite commendable. I hope someday you will be able to have a center large enough to accommodate all of your staff and the many clients that need your services. As time goes on, there will be a greater need. Thank you for helping people reach their goals."*



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# Grants & Donations

- North Country Federal Credit Union - \$20,000
- Four members received funds to create a Families in Recovery Program
- UVM Community Health Investment Fund - \$27,608
  - Technology grant to create remote recovery services.
- The heART Show - \$10,250
- Holiday Match - \$3,690
- Anonymous Donation - \$40,000
  - Action Circle
  - Small Training Fund
  - Dental & Eye Care



# First Conference

- Our First Annual Recovery is the Answer! Peer Support is the Way Conference was offered free to all members, their staff, board members and community collaborators.
- Almost 200 guests attended.
- 72 CRC's received CEU's for participation.
- 15 workshops were offered.
- We had 38 sponsors!



# Documentary

Recovery Partners of Vermont

is honored to present

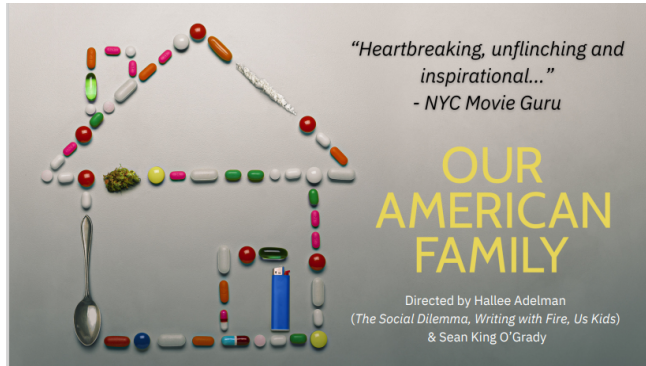
## *Our American Family*

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 | 6PM- 8PM

Viewings Available at all 13 members of Recovery Partners of VT:

Q&A with the mother from the documentary will be available after the screening.

- Journey to Recovery Community Center
- Jenna's Promise
- Kingdom Recovery Center
- Vermont Foundation of Recovery
- Turning Point Center of Central VT
- VAMHAR/RecoveryVT
- Turning Point Center of Addison County
- Turning Point Center of Chittenden County
- Upper Valley Turning Point Center
- Turning Point Center of Rutland
- Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield
- Turning Point Center of Windham County
- Turning Point Recovery Center of Bennington



- Sponsored Anonymously
- Free for all members, remotely
- First to offer this documentary in Vermont!
- Q&A with Mother from the documentary!

*Addiction is an all-encompassing force not only in the lives of the afflicted, but also those around them. Captured at a pivotal "nothing to lose" moment over the course of a year, OUR AMERICAN FAMILY is a radically honest portrait of five family members grappling with the legacy of generational addiction as they fight to heal resentments and pull each other out of the deepest depths.*



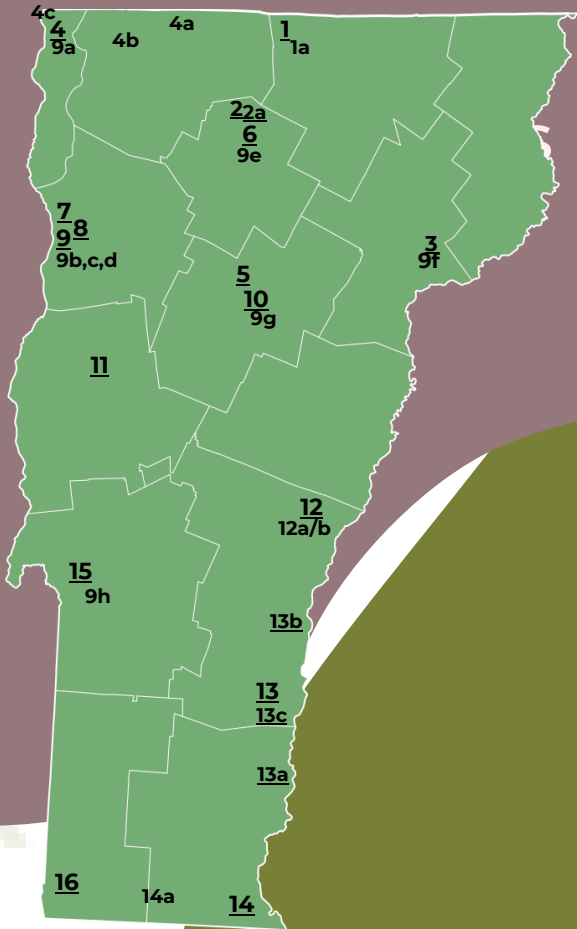
# Success in the Legislature

- Legislative Breakfast
  - 18 Legislators attended
  - 2 guest speakers in recovery
  - Sponsored by:
    - Talbot Law Office LLC
    - NBT Bank
    - Amethyst Captive Insurance Solutions
    - Northeast Kingdom Human Services
    - Vermont Mutual Insurance Group
- Recovery Centers received \$1.85 million added to base funding for benefits and competitive wages for staff.
- Recovery Residences received \$750,000 (\$400,000 base funding, \$350,000, one-time funds) for benefits and competitive wages for staff.





# Our Members



- 1 - Journey to Recovery Community Center | Newport | (802)624-4156  
1a - Satellite Office | North Country High School
- 2 - Jenna's Promise | Johnson | (802)343-8741  
2a - Recovery Residence- Rae of Hope
- 3 - Kingdom Recovery Center | St. Johnsbury | (802)751-8520
- 4 - Turning Point Franklin Cnty | St. Albans | (802)782-8454  
4a - Satellite Office | Richford  
4b - Satellite Office | Enosburgh  
4c - Satellite Office | Alburgh/Islands
- 5 - VAMHAR/RecoveryVT | Montpelier | (802)223-6263
- 6 - North Central Vermont Recovery Center | Morrisville | (802)851-8120
- 7 - Turning Point Center of Chittenden County | Burlington | (802)861-3150
- 8 - Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences | Burlington | info@vtarr.org
- 9 - Vermont Foundation of Recovery | Essex | (802) 753-4340  
9a - Recovery House - St. Albans  
9b, c, d - Recovery House - Essex (3)  
9e - Recovery Residence - Morrisville  
9f - Recovery Residence - St. Johnsbury  
9g - Recovery Residence - Barre  
9h - Recovery Residence - Rutland
- 10 - Turning Point Center of Central Vermont | Barre | (802)479-7373
- 11 - Turning Point Center of Addison County | Middlebury | (802)388-4249
- 12 - Upper Valley Turning Point Center | White River Junction | (802)295-5206  
12a - Recovery Residence - Willow Grove  
12b - Recovery Residence - Jack's House
- 13 - Turning Point Center of Springfield | Springfield | (802)885-4668  
13a - Satellite Office - TP South | Bellows Falls  
13b - Satellite Office - TP North | Windsor  
13c - Recovery Residence - Springfield
- 14 - Turning Point Center of Windham County | Brattleboro | (802)257-5600  
14a - Satellite Office - Wilmington
- 15 - Turning Point Center of Rutland | Rutland | (802)773-6010
- 16 - Turning Point Recovery Center of Bennington | Bennington | (802) 442-9700

# Member Triumphs



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of Vermont

- The inclusion of both base and one time funding for VFOR in the Vermont state budget for FY24. This is the first step toward long term sustainable funding. We are hopeful the one-time money is converted to base and added to in future sessions.
- Staff:
  - Full-time - 4
  - Part-time - 2



- Opening our home in Barre for women and women with children. This is the first VFOR home allowing a parent to have their children live in the house with them.
- Passage of H. 222 establishing VTARR as a certifying body, a common definition of recovery residences, and a clear description of how zoning needs to be applied in all municipalities.



- VT Digger published an article about our corrections program which began discussions with Department of Corrections on how we can model our Corrections Program around the state.
- Development of volunteer incentive program to give volunteers knowledge of all the services we provide and helping them to have a better sense of purpose and set goals if they desire to become a recovery coach.
- Staff
  - Full-time - 6
  - Part-time - 2
  - Volunteer Corrections Coach - 1

- Through the Law Enforcement grant, we have been able to develop a true working relationship with our local law enforcement agencies-Vermont State Troopers (VSP) and Rutland City Police Department (RCPD). These have afforded us the ability to work collaboratively with RCPD to provide recovery support, transportation and admission to inpatient rehab for many people in our community.
- We present quarterly to new VSP recruits who are going to the training academy a 3-hour presentation sharing our stories of recovery and provide insight to them about what the reality of what getting into recovery looks like and how long it can take.



- Became an active member of Recovery Partner of Vermont
- We doubled our Recovery Coach in the Emergency Department referrals
- We partnered with the Jenna Promise team to execute a successful Trail Run 4 Recovery



## Turning Point Center of Addison County



- Our recovery coaching supervisor has been accepted to the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers in Copenhagen (they accept 80 people for the United States each year).
- Staff:
  - Full-time - 5
  - Part-time - 7



## Turning Point Center OF CHITTENDEN COUNTY

- Our recovery center is open 365 days a year with recovery coaches and peer support specialists staffed every day to help with all your recovery needs.
- Staff:
  - Full-time - 7
  - Part-time - 13



- We successfully funded and staffed a new and innovative low-barrier coaching services program titled, Outreach Recovery Coaching, which serves all of Chittenden County's housing systems.
- Our Emergency Dept. Coaching Program serves the entire UVMHC Hospital and patient consults have risen almost three times the monthly average since 2021.



- Unhoused Outreach efforts began in Dec '22 and TPRCB now leads a collaborative community team going out twice weekly (includes the Homeless Coalition, Syringe Services & United Counseling). We seek to saturate the community with NARCAN, Harm Reduction and Recovery information, meet them where they're at, and connect folks to resources.



- Secured funding and permits to move ahead with the first Men's Recovery House in Bennington County. (ETA late '24).
- Re-introduced Turning Point Recovery Center of Bennington (TPRCB) to the Community and reignited agency partnerships.
- Staff:
  - 18 employees





- Many upgrades to our transition house and the center
- We built a gym right on site.
- We launched our Recovery Coaches in Justice Settings program.
- Staff:
  - Part-time - 14
  - Full-time - 6





- We revived our annual, in-person, fundraiser in November of 2023!
- Staff:
  - Part-time - 8
  - Full-time - 3



- NCVRC collaborated with a local organization (Healthy Lamoille Valley) to capture an Anti-Stigma campaign inclusive of print ads, posters, marketing materials etc...
- The need for Peer Recovery Coaching continues to increase and we fulfilled 850+ recovery coach sessions in FY23.

- Efficiency Vermont is covering 100% of the cost to foam insulate our attic and basement (20k). This will reduce fossil fuels as well as reduce our costs with heating/cooling our building. Reducing our costs will open up flexibility in how we support our guests and staff.
- With the support and effort of RPVT, we were awarded funding to improve our technology and ability to host hybrid meetings. We now have a designated hybrid meeting room have launched two new meetings and have adopted other meetings to now have a hybrid option. Our new meetings are "Women in Recovery" & "LGBTQIA+ Recovery" all peer-led by members of each community in recovery. By the end of the year, we will also be launching a "Men's Recovery" hybrid meeting
- Staff:
  - Part-time - 3
  - Full-time - 6

- New Program: We have launched our new Offsite Coaching Program (OSC): a unique program that provides recovery coaching services to people in their homes, or other community settings. The program is designed to lower barriers to engaging with coaching and help people achieve their recovery goals and build self-sufficiency.



*of Windham County*



- Opening our social detox bed! We have had 57 admits and 42 unique admits since we opened November 21, 2022.
- Embedding peer coaches in the high school! We have a full-time program in the high school, helping youth and young adults learn about substance use and then also stress management, connection and self-esteem.

- Expanding our staff! In 2021/2022 we had three employees. Growth is good!
- Staff:
  - Part-time - 4
  - Full-time - 3
  - Compassionate Care Workers - 9



# friends of **Recovery Vermont**

- Execution of what many partners have called “the best Recovery Day ever!”
- Staff:
  - Part time - 1
  - Full time - 9



- Expansion of the Recovery Friendly Workforce Initiative to include organizations collectively employing over 1,000 people.
- Completion of a comprehensive audit of Recovery Coach Academy training curriculum to improve cultural humility and responsiveness for youth, BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and older Vermonters.

- With generous support from the Boyle Foundation the SWF started a Dads in Recovery group and collaborates with the Family place to provide parenting topics.
- Mark Helijas, first Executive Director of the original Turning Point recovery center received the Mark Helijas Recovery Pioneer Award at 2022 RPV conference.
- Staff:
  - Part time - 4
  - Full time - 3

U P P E R V A L L E Y



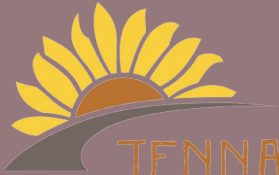
T U R N I N G P O I N T

- The Second Wind Foundation built strong connections with highly desirable businesses to offer employment opportunities to our residents of our transitional Housing facilities: Willow Grove and Jack's House





- In July 2022, we began year one of our three-year pilot program that has transformed our organization. With that as a catalyst, we have grown rapidly including now being one of the largest employers of people in recovery in Vermont.
- During the FY23 fiscal year, we partnered with the Institute for Trauma Recovery and Resiliency (ITRR) to provide clinical services to our residents and launched an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) which was eventually opened up to the community.



JENNA'S PROMISE  
A pathway to recovery

- We launched and built out a formal workforce development program, hiring our first workforce development and education coordinator.
- Staff:
  - Part time - 7 Core; 13-17 who work at our social enterprises
  - Full time - 16





KINGDOM  
Recovery Center

- We have been strengthening our relationships with local 12 step groups and offering regular groups like Writers For Recovery.
- Staff:
  - Salary - 1
  - Full-time - 4



- Ariel Beaulac, Program Supervisor has been working closely with the VT Department of Children and Families on the Families Come First Prevention Service Act. We hope to be able to have recovery coaches supporting DCF cases with the Parents in Recovery Program coaches, in the future, gaining increased funding.
- Kingdom Recovery Center is currently partnering with 'Healing Together' Northeast and Regional teams, helping to create wrap-around services for those experiencing substance misuse and domestic violence. Ariel Beaulac became a trained 'A Window Between Worlds' (AWBW) Art Expression facilitator through this program.



- We have almost reached our fundraising goal to develop our new recovery center facility.
- Staff:
  - Part-time - 3
  - Full-time - 5



- Our law enforcement recovery coach program expanded from Montpelier PD to also include Barre City and Berlin PDs as well as Montpelier and Barre City EMS.
- We started our Open Hearts group supporting family members of people struggling with Substance Use Disorders.



Thank you for a great year!



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