Recovery Partners of Vermont Annual Report June 30, 2023 - July 1, 2024

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

Welcome to the Fiscal Year 2024 Recovery Partners of Vermont Annual Report. This past year was highlighted by remarkable growth and increased recognition of our members by their local communities, as well as by state and federal leaders.

I want to start by offering my appreciation to Allie Mullin who skillfully compiled this report. Also, my deep gratitude to the Recovery Partners of Vermont team for their dedication and tireless efforts to keep everything running smoothly. We are a team of four part-time professionals whose job it is to support and enhance the work of our member organizations, ensuring they can best serve individuals across Vermont affected by Substance and Alcohol Use Disorders.

One of the most gratifying parts of our work this year was witnessing the statewide recognition of a program that brings recovery coaching to individuals being released from the Department of Corrections' Marble Valley Regional Correctional Center, operated by the Turning Point Center of Rutland. With the conclusion of the legislative session, recovery coaching services will now extend to all six correctional facilities in Vermont, offering support both pre- and post-release.

ecovery Partners

Additionally, the six other recovery centers will receive funding to assist formerly incarcerated individuals as they return to their communities. Data from this program show promising results, including reduced overdose deaths and increased rates of sustained recovery among participants. Bravo to Tracie Hauck and her team at the Turning Point Center of Rutland! Last year, for the first time in Vermont's history, health care benefits were made available to both full- and part-time employees of peer recovery centers. A huge thank you goes out to the Vermont Legislature for their commitment to improving the quality of life for these incredible professionals.

This year, with support from local foundations and the legislature, we built on last year's foundational achievements. We launched an Employee Assistance Program, ensuring that all employees of our member organizations have access to up to four counseling sessions at no cost. If additional support is needed, a warm referral process is in place to facilitate continued care.

We also secured a technology grant to ensure that seniors affected by substance and alcohol use disorders can readily access virtual meetings and recovery center activities. Additionally, we received a grant from the Vermont Community Foundation to support the development of disaster preparedness policies and training within our recovery centers. This ensures that, in the event of a disaster, staff are equipped to provide compassionate and effective support to guests in need. Kudos to Amanda Nevius, Deputy Director of RPV, for her outstanding work in securing and managing these grants.

Finally, and most importantly, as you explore this report, you'll see growth in programming, expanded access to recovery residences, and a prevailing sense of hope for those seeking and sustaining recovery. While we still have work to do in addressing gaps within Vermont's recovery system, the combined efforts of foundations, the Vermont Legislature, and our collaborative community under the Recovery Partners of Vermont umbrella are driving meaningful progress.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission.



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.



Board of Directors

- Lila Bennett
- Nellie Stidham
- David Riegel
- Shannon Carchidi
- Margae Diamond
- Michael Johnson, President
- Aimée S. Green
- Tracie Hauck
- Steven Kline

- Lee Larson, Secretary
- Cam Lauf
- Eric Maguire, Vice President

Recovery Partners

- Danielle Wallace
- Sheila Young, Treasurer
- Jeff Moreau
- Arial Beaulac
- Jon Keane
- Kate Blouin

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.

<u>Our Standards</u>

- 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.

Recovery Partners

of Vermont

<u>Peer Standards Audits</u> <u>-Guest Testimonials-</u>

"As a gay man I've felt very welcome and supported at the Turning Point Center."

"Turning Point Center is a haven. It is a place that provides a physically and emotionally safe environment where I can freely express myself without fear of prejudice, or negative judgment. I am treated with respect, and feel comfortable, secure, and free from external pressures. In an often intolerant world, having a safe space to go to is incredibly important for good self-care. A safe space is a place physical or virtual—where you can relax and recharge. Again, it's also a judgment-free zone where you can let your guard down and truly be yourself. So thank you TPC!" "I met a recovery coach here that was instrumental to my early sobriety. I started going to meetings here and made many meaningful connections."

"My son suffers from schizophrenia and substance use disorder. I participate in the family meeting at Jenna's promise. The family meeting has had a tremendous positive impact in my life. I no longer feel isolated and alone with my thoughts and fears. I can't say enough how much I appreciate the support I have found for myself and my son through Jenna's Promise."

"The support they showed was everything I needed to get to where I am today."



Second Annual Conference

- Our Second Annual Recovery is the Answer! Peer Support is the Way Conference was offered free to all members, their staff, board members and community collaborators.
- 231 guests attended.
- 75 CRC's received CEU's for participation.
- 20 workshops were offered.
- We had 55 sponsors!

<u>First Annual Recovery Stars</u> <u>Benefit Dinner & Auction</u>

- 191 guests attended.
- Tracie Hauck, Executive Director of TPC Rutland, was given the Mark Helijas Recovery Pioneer Award.
- Senator Richard Westman & Representative Dane Whitman were our first Recovery Stars Awardees.







Success in the Legislature

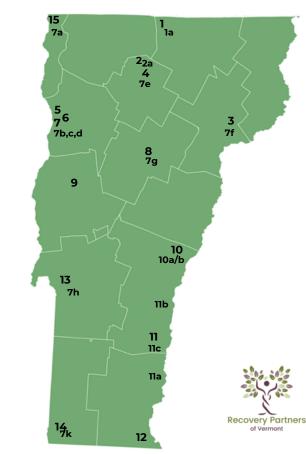
- Legislative Breakfast in the State Capitol Building Cafeteria
 - Sponsored by:
 - RK Miles
 - Farrel Distribution Clean Cause
 - Amethyst Captive Insurance Solutions
 - Northeast Kingdom Human Services
- \$325,000 for scholarships for admittance into recovery residences
- \$1,230,000 allocated to cover operational costs of Vermont's certified recovery residences, which includes increasing staff wages and benefits to be competitive, offsetting rent costs for residence operators, and opening two new certified recovery residences in fiscal year 2025
- \$1,060,000 for Recovery Coaching in the Correctional System

Grants & Donations

- Five Grants totaling \$195,321
- Five Foundations and Major Donors totaling \$53,900



Our Members



1....Journey to Recovery Community Center | Newport 1a...Satellite Office | North Country High School 2.....Jenna's Promise | Johnson 2a...Recovery Residence | Rae of Hope 3.....Kingdom Recovery Center | St. Johnsbury 4.....North Central Vermont Recovery Center | Morrisville 5.....Turning Point Center of Chittenden County | Burlington 6.....Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences | Burlington 7.....Vermont Foundation of Recovery | Essex 7a...Recovery Residence | St. Albans 7b, c, d...Recovery Residence Essex (3) 7e...Recovery Residence | Morrisville 7f....Recovery Residence | St. Johnsbury 7g...Recovery Residence | Barre 7h...Recovery Residence | Rutland 7k...Recovery Residence | Bennington 8.....Turning Point Center of Central Vermont | Barre 9.....Turning Point Center of Addison County | Middlebury 10...Upper Valley Turning Point Center | White River Junction 10a...Recovery Residence | Willow Grove 10b...Recovery Residence | Jack's House 11.....Turning Point Center of Springfield | Springfield 11a...Satellite Office TP South | Bellows Falls 11b...Satellite Office TP North | Windsor 11c...Recovery Residence | Springfield 12.....Turning Point Center of Windham County | Brattleboro 13.....Turning Point Center of Rutland | Rutland 14.....Turning Point Center of Bennington | Bennington 15.....Turning Point Center of Franklin County | St. Albans

Member Triumphs





Vermont Foundation of Recovery



Three Areas of Achievement:

- Strengthening Community Partnerships: VFOR made significant strides in building strong relationships with community partners across the areas we serve. A key highlight of these efforts was our partnership with RPV as well as recovery centers throughout the state.
- Building Organizational Stability: To ensure long-term stability and effectiveness, VFOR focused on strengthening our internal systems throughout FY24. We made significant improvements by switching to a new CRM platform (Behave Health), refining our policies and procedures, creating new roles within the organization, and enhancing the benefits available to our employees.
- Expansion of Recovery Homes: Our third key achievement was successfully integrating into a new community with the opening of our recovery home in Barre, VT as well as laying the groundwork to open another new recovery home in Bennington, VT in September 2024. The Barre and Bennington recovery homes are particularly significant as they cater to an underserved demographic—women with children. These new homes reflect our commitment to inclusivity and ensuring that all individuals have access to the support they need during their recovery.

One Area of Growth:

• Enhance long-term goals and expand our impact by strengthening organizational infrastructure and more effectively addressing operational demands.

- Part-time 8
- Full-time 9

- In the past year, the Turning Point Center of Rutland has been able to offer our employees' health, vision and dental insurance along with an EAP program for the first time.
- Earlier this year the Center was able to be involved in the launch of an Outreach Care Team here in Rutland. This is a multi-agency team including representation from the Rutland County Free Clinic, Project VISION's Community Resource Specialist/ Rutland City Police Department, Community Care Network (Rutland Mental Health) and the Medical Reserve Corps.
- In 2016, the Turning Point Center began offering peer recovery support to individuals who were involved with the Department of Corrections. We were allowed to go into Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility to provide monthly presentations, weekly support groups and one to one Recovery Coaching. This year funding was secured with the goal of expanding this program statewide. Each recovery center and correctional facility in Vermont has the opportunity to form partnerships in order to offer individuals peer support while they navigate their personal path of recovery from substance use.



One Area of Growth:

 In the upcoming year TPCR will be working on strategies to engage & support youth and other underserved populations in our community.



- Part-time 3
- Full-time 10



- We have signed a purchase and sale agreement to buy a new building
- Received funding to offer mobile recovery coaching anywhere in Addison County.
- We are now embedded in 2 of 3 teen centers in Addison County each week during the school year.

One Area of Growth:

• We would like to strengthen our relationship with our local police and probation department.

- Part-time 7
- Full-time 5





One Area of Growth

 We wish to station satellite "office hours" of certified peer recovery services in each city and town in Chittenden County, specifically the most rural areas in our county.



Three Areas of Achievement

- Our recovery center remains open 365 days per year with extended hours three days a week for community groups, events, and activities.
- Sufficiently providing services, with a year to year increase in total individuals served among all specialized recovery coaching programs since 2020.
- We are estimating to see approximately 1,051 individuals served in all direct recovery support services and over 10,000 visits to our recovery center by end of 2024.

- Part-time 10
- Full-time 8

- Secured grant funding for Community Outreach and serve as fiscal lead. We have linked hundred to services, coordinated entry housing applications, passed out soup, coffee/water, sleeping bags and other sundries to unhoused and housing insecure individuals.
- Forged unique relationship with EMS to target SUD patients who refuse transport to the hospital. 1 in 7 have taken the next step towards recovery!
- Awarded 2nd NARCAN dispensing machine in the state through UVM CORA HRSA grant.

TURNING POINT

RECOVERY CENTER of BENNINGTON, VT

One Area of Growth:

 We look forward to developing our work within Probation & Parole with new funding support this year from DOC. The high number of people suffering from SUD in jail/prison makes recidivism a key metric.

- Part-time 20
- Full-time 4

- Our increased community collaborations with Project Action and our Justice/Corrections programs using Sequential Intercept Model, which includes the correctional facility, probation and parole, restorative justice program, DUI/Drug court and pretrial, Diversion program to reduce recidivism.
- We serve at the Police Department with our embedded Recovery coach doing community outreach. We expanded our two satellite programs with enhanced outreach, at 2 area motels and additional youth coaching.

One Area of Growth:

 Increase Recovery Coach team to a comfortable number to provide continuous service across all programs.

<u>Staff:</u>

- Part-time 14
- Full-time 6

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North Central Vermont RECOVERY CENTER NCVRC.com

<u>Staff:</u>

- Part-time 8
- Full-time 3

Three Areas of Achievement:

- We expanded our facility footprint by 1500 square feet, allowing more space for employees, guests, and offerings!
- Staff growth! Our Volunteer Program Coordinator applied and was promoted into our Parents in Recovery Program Coordinator. A wonderful volunteer applied for an internal employment opportunity and was hired into the Volunteer Program Coordinator! We have hired an outstanding Recovery Coaches Program Manager who has absolutely hit the ground running!
- Health and Wellness offerings are flourishing and expanding at NCVRC. In addition to Reset Acupuncture and Reiki we have added Sound Healing to our regular offerings. We also partnered with GMTCC (Green Mountain Tech Career Center) and they rebuilt our garden beds, which look fantastic next to our new picnic table!

One Area of Growth:

• Partnering with Law Enforcement and responding to SUD related calls is a priority for us.

Three Areas of Growth:

- We now have 21 meetings weekly.
- March of 2024, we had 10 guests visiting our center monthly, July was 423. We have had an incredible uptick in our guests activity, growth, participation; we're near capacity for coachees! Such a great problem to have.
- We have increased our hours. March our hours were 10-3pm. Today, our hours are 9-5pm Monday - Friday.

One Area of Growth:

• Sober Living - We are working toward creating a sober living environment. we intend to find a collaborative partner and support them by connecting them to our community partners, municipal officials, housing providers, etc.



- Part-time 3
- Full-time 7



- Continued Utilization of our Social Detox bed.
- Expansion of our Prevention Curriculum in the Middle and High Schools in Orleans County
- Highest rate of referrals from any facility (recovery center, hospital, MAT etc) to inpatient treatment in the state of Vermont. We are sending an average of 18 people per month. Our Parents in Recovery Program welcomed 71 new Parents to the program!

One Area of Growth:

 JTRCC would like to expand the numbers of groups we have and the times we have them.

- Part-time 9
- Full-time 3





- Bringing yoga to our recovery community.
- Connecting people with recovery friendly workplaces and seeing the result of good employment in sustaining recovery.
- Presented Peter Mallary, Second Wind Foundation Board President, the lifetime achievement award on Recovery Day 2024!

One Area of Growth:

 The Board of Directors has begun the process of investigating options for expansion. With over 20 meetings a week, a strong peer support community, and providing treatment navigation and recovery coaching we are busting at the seams. We will initiate a capital campaign to double our space being able to offer other holistic and hands on opportunities for recovery wellness.

<u>Staff:</u>

- Part-time 6
- Full-time 2



UPPER VALLEY

TURNING POINT

- Creation of the daily IOP Extension, the Integrated Wellness Continuum, for all residents to utilize in the first weeks of their time at Jenna's Promise.
- The creation of our 'Phase Roadway' where our Four Pillars (programbased residency, health and wellness, workforce development, and clinical) combine to provide a clear and understandable pathway for residents to move through our model
- New professionalized board leadership under Kitty Toll and a new Executive Director under Aimée Green!



<u>One Area of Growth:</u>

• More time and space for professional development of our staff.

- Part-time 10
- Full-time 7



- Our center has been able to strengthen our relationships with community partners.
- Our staff has been dedicated and resilient while we have rejuvenated our center.
- We have been able to shift to meet the needs of our community members.

One Area of Growth:

 We look forward to growing the recovery coaching program within the Department of Corrections.

<u>Staff:</u>

- Part-time 1
- Full-time 5





Recovery Center

- After being forced out of our facility due to the flood of July 2023, many months later we were finally able to move into 2 locations in Barre City that enable us to carry on our work until our new recovery center building is finished.
- We received a \$400,000 earmark from Congresswoman Becca Balint, capping our fundraising total of \$3.9 million that will enable us to begin construction of our new recovery center.
- Working in partnership with Green Mountain United Way, we developed a program supporting management and staff at Vermont Creamery. We will now carry that program to other companies in central Vermont.

One Area of Growth

• Our main area of growth for FY 2025 will be to develop the expertise to provide recovery supports to youth. We will have the resources to do this thanks to our central role in a 5-year SAMHSA grant won by the Central Vermont Prevention Coalition.

- Part-time 3
- Full-time 6



- We were able to secure enhanced scholarship funding to increase accessibility to recovery residences.
- We also certified 3 new recovery resident locations
- We've enhanced put relationship and collaboration opportunities with the Vermont Department of Health.

One Area of Growth:

• Continued expansion of recovery residences across Vermont.

<u>Staff:</u>

• Full-time - 1

VERMONT ALLIANCE FOR RECOVERY RESIDENCES



TP of Franklin County

Three Areas of Achievement:

- A fully staffed and highly regarded RCED program at the NMC.
- Placed additional Recovery Coaches into our Outreach sites.
- We are now a participating agency of the CHARM Team for Franklin County.

One Area of Growth:

• More statewide training opportunities for staff.

- Part-time 9
- Full-time 2

