Housing Community Opiate Task Force

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- ~13,500 apartments statewide (public and CDC's)

- Role of the Housing Community Task Force
  - Understand the housing needs related to substance use disorder, represent affordable housing community perspectives, insights
  - Communicate with rest of affordable housing community
  - Ensure streamlined, coordinated response to housing needs statewide
Housing Community Perspective on Opiate Epidemic

- Four Categories of Need
  - Maintain and support people in their current housing affected by addiction (Housing Retention)
  - A range of housing options to support people affected by addiction
  - Statewide coordination of housing for people affected by addiction
  - Landlord Education

Housing Retention

- Maintain and support people in their current housing affected by addiction
- Stories from the field
A range of housing options to support people with addiction

- Challenges in existing portfolio
  - Limited rental subsidy available
  - Low vacancies in statewide portfolio (some opportunity exists)
  - Not always near enough to treatment and services

- Opportunities in existing portfolio
  - Some rental subsidies available
  - Strong partnerships with service providers

A range of housing options to support people with addiction - continued

- Challenges of new development of housing for people with addiction
  - Scale & funding
  - Population specific
  - Long-term commitment
  - Not enough money: limited subsidies, service providers need capacity and dollars

- Opportunities for new development of housing for people with addiction
  - Repurpose of exiting facilities (Randolph and Brattleboro)
  - Provide the bricks and mortar, partner with service provider to lease or buy/rehab housing for expanded recovery homes across state
I am an individual and…

I need a rental unit that is affordable.

Housing First Program

Permanent Supportive Housing Program

Recovery Housing

Service Provider Partnerships

Public Housing Authority

I am homeless and may not be ready to enter treatment for SUD.

Housing First Program

Permanent Supportive Housing Program

Recovery Housing

Service Provider Partnerships

Public Housing Authority

Housing Agency with Rental Assistance
I am an individual and...

I am homeless and may have kids. I seek service coordination and housing.

Housing Agency with Rental Assistance

Public Housing Authority

Service Provider Partnerships

Recovery Housing

Housing First Program

Permanent Supportive Housing Program

I am in treatment for SUD and I prefer a place to live that supports my early sobriety in a shared living environment with direct connection to peer support.

Housing Agency with Rental Assistance

Public Housing Authority

Service Provider Partnerships

Recovery Housing

Housing First Program

Permanent Supportive Housing Program
Housing Agency with Rental Assistance

Public Housing Authority

Service Provider Partnerships

Recovery Housing

Housing First Program

Permanent Supportive Housing Program

I need assistance to maintain my current rental housing and avoid eviction.

I have an apartment but need rental assistance.
I am a housing agency or landlord and...

- Service Provider Partnerships
- State Funded Rental Assistance
- Eviction Prevention Programs
- Police
- Treatment Options

I have units to offer but no rental assistance.

I have rentals with assistance but no housing support services.
I am a housing agency or landlord and...

I recognize signs that my residents are seeking help for SUD.

Service Provider Partnerships

State Funded Rental Assistance

Eviction Prevention Programs

Police

I notice residents exhibiting risky behavior due to SUD.

Service Provider Partnerships

State Funded Rental Assistance

Eviction Prevention Programs

Police

Treatment Options
Statewide Coordination of Housing for People Affected by Addiction

- Statewide Need
- Developer Toolkit
- Coordinated Entry for housing options
- VTARR (Vermont Alliance of Recovery Residences)
VTARR believes that Recovery housing (recovery residences) fits along the continuum of supportive housing models which also include Permanent Supportive Housing and Housing First programs.

- VTARR is a National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) affiliate. NARR establishes a common language and an inclusive framework of choices.
- NARR identified 4 basic types of Recovery Residences (Levels of Support)

**RECOVERY RESIDENCES**
WHERE PEERS LEARN TO LIVE RECOVERY FOR AS LONG AS THEY WANT AND ARE SUPPORTING THE RECOVERY FAMILY

- Spectrum of sober, safe and peer-supportive living environments and residential programs that promote addiction recovery
- Rooted in Social Model Recovery Philosophy, they range in the type and intensity of services they offer. These options cost-effectively match the diverse and changing needs of residents.
- Developed at the intersection of:
NARR Levels Empower Choice

Peer-run
Level I
- Peer recovery support in a democratically run living environment.

Monitored
Level II
- Peer recovery support and staff-monitored structure.

Supervised
Level III
- Peer recovery support, staff-monitored structure plus structured (re)habilitative life skill development.

Service Provider
Level IV
- Peer recovery support, staff-monitored, life skills and clinical programming.

Recovery Residences in the Continuum of Recovery

Acute care (inpatient, medical, psychiatric) -> Recovery residences: Enter at any level
Level 4
Level 3
Level 2
Level 1
Stabilization
Recovery process duration
Long-term recovery: Independent, meaningful living in the community

PURPOSE OF THE STANDARD

- Quality Assurance
- Educate, Guide and Communicate
- Quantify – Measurable
- Operational Framework
- Systemic Definition and Alignment

Benefits of The Standard and Certification:

- Provides a needed framework for operators to conduct a safe, viable community
- Is attractive to those we serve – Residents, FAMILIES, referents
- Community and Resource – Teach Mentor, and Educate
- Links to (Evidence Based) Practice
- Provides Ethical Guidance
National Quality Standard Revised Format 2017

Social Model is evidenced by:

1. Physical environment (home like)
2. Staff role (peer based)
3. Authority base (lived experience)
4. Recovery Orientation (vs. clinical)
5. Governance (residents have a voice)
6. Community Orientation (community is resource)
A Recovery-Oriented System of Care (ROSC):

- A systemic view of recovery in which an individual can enter health and community support networks at any point (or via any provider) and find a personalized array of provider services to address that person’s needs, whatever those needs may be.
- A holistic view of caring for the person, recognizing that human beings are complex, that substance-use treatment is complex, and that the underlying causes of substance-use disorders are complex.
- A long-term view that recognizes that people with chronic disorders may require different levels of care over their entire lifetimes.

VTARR Next Steps

The mission of VTARR is to create, evaluate, and improve standards and measures of quality for all levels of recovery residences (RR) in Vermont.

VTARR Next Steps

1. Board Development (now)
2. Adopt Common Definition of RR, Standards & Code of Ethics
3. Develop process and procedures for certification of RR & encourage all local RRs to adhere to these standards
4. Implement recovery housing certification program
5. Ensure that a directory of VTARR certified RR in VT exists, is accurate and updated regularly
Landlord Education

- Best practices training to landlords public and private
- Regular communication with landlords on status of opiate epidemic, needs, progress etc.
- Residents seeking help for SUD- treatment options
- Residents exhibiting risky behavior due to SUD - police
- Residents are not paying rent - eviction – other tools, programs

Housing Community Perspective Recap & Next Steps

- Maintain and support people affected by addiction in current housing (Housing Retention)
- A range of housing options to support people affected by addiction
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