



# **OSAC Proposal**

## **Recovery Partners of Vermont, DOC, & Turning Point Center of Rutland**

November 29, 2023



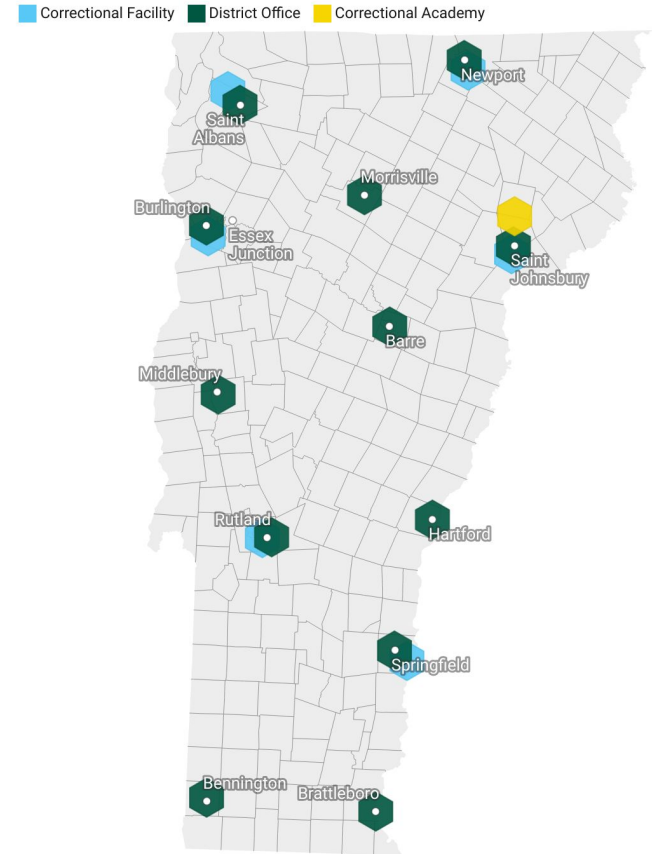
# Overview

1. **Who We Are**
2. **SUD & Incarceration**
3. **New Joint Initiative: Community-Based Peer Coaching**
4. **Funding Request**
5. **Questions & Discussion**

# DOC

- Housed within **Agency of Human Services**
- **Unified System:**
  - Detained: 484
  - Sentenced: 854
  - Community supervision: 3837
- **Facilities:**
  - 6 in-state facilities
    - 5 men's facilities
    - 1 women's facility
  - 1 out-of-state men's facility
- **Probation & Parole:**
  - 12 district offices
- Training: **Vermont Correctional Academy**
- Staff: **1000**

## Vermont DOC Sites



# Recovery Partners of Vermont



## Mission:

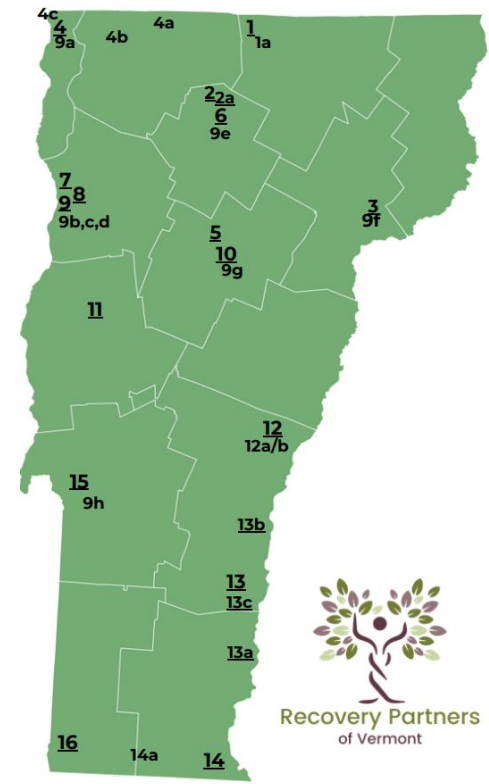
***“To support our member recovery organizations such that they can be world class establishments empowering individual Vermonters and their families who are in recovery from an alcohol and other substance use disorders.”***

# Recovery Partners of Vermont



## Network Partners:

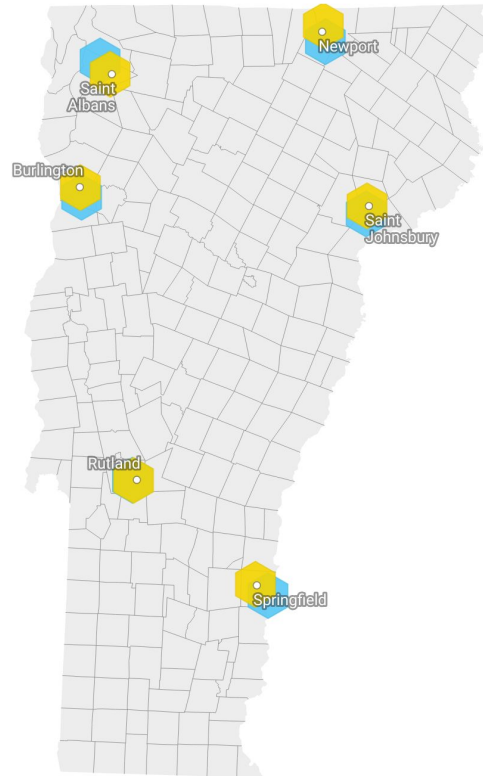
- Kingdom Recovery Center
- Jenna's Promise
- Journey to Recovery Community Center
- North Central VT Recovery Center
- Turning Point of Franklin County
- Turning Point Center of Addison County
- Turning Point Center of Rutland
- Turning Point of Springfield
- Turning Point of Bennington
- Turning Point Center of Chittenden County
- Turning Point of Central Vermont
- Turning Point of Windham County
- Upper Valley Turning Point
- Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences
- Vermont Foundation for Recovery
- Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery (Recovery Vermont)



# Recovery Partners of Vermont & DOC



■ Recovery Center ■ Correctional Facility



# DOC Population Statistics: Health



## Medication Trends

- Population receiving medication: **90%**
- Receiving psychotropic medications: **70%**
- Average number of medications: **5.5**
- Receiving Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD): **55-60%**

## Health Trends

- **1,000** individuals w/ diagnosed chronic illness
  - **90%** of the average daily incarcerated population
  - **47% increase** from 2015 to 2022
- Total ED visits by incarcerated individuals in FY22: **354**

# SUD & Incarceration



## Risk of Death

- Overdose is the [leading cause of death](#) for people recently released from incarceration nationwide.
  - The immediate period following release from incarceration poses particular risk for overdose death.

## Research

- A study in Washington State found that, in the two weeks following their release, people who had been incarcerated in state prisons were [129 times more likely](#) to die from an overdose compared to the general public.
- Research found increased community-based substance use treatment capacity was [associated with decreases in both jail admissions and overdose deaths](#).
- Vermont has made strides in reducing overdose deaths for justice-involved Vermonters:
  - Among individuals with OUD released from incarceration, nonfatal overdoses decreased by one-third and fatal overdoses decreased from 27 to  $\leq 10$  deaths following statewide MOUD implementation, [representing a >60% reduction in fatalities](#).





# New Initiative: Community-Based Peer Coaching

## Peer Coaching via Recovery Partners of Vermont Member Sites

- Scaling [Rutland pilot](#) statewide
  - Pilot began operation in 2016
- In-reach peer recovery coaching and co-located recovery center
  - Continuity of care:
    - Individuals able to access recovery services across institutional and jurisdictional boundaries
- Recovery center challenges:
  - Unique dynamics of correctional environment
  - New, complex caseload with oversubscribed staff
  - Distinct from case management
- Needs:
  - Specialized trainings, supervision, data collection, etc.

## Philosophical Framework

- Blur boundaries between carceral system and Vermont's communities
  - Invest in and infuse community resources into carceral system

### 'They're helping me save the rest of my life': Rutland organization helps incarcerated people find sobriety and rebuild their lives

By Tiffany Tan  
May 18, 2023, 7:04 am



Mike St. Pierre at the Turning Point Center of Rutland in March. Photo by Glenn Russell/VTDigger

**RUTLAND** — In 2018, Mike St. Pierre was a year into his most recent incarceration at Rutland's Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility when he felt drawn to attend a presentation by the local substance use recovery center. After listening to the visiting peer counselors talk about their paths to recovery, he decided to sign up for their prison programs.

# Office of the Attorney General: Settlement Fund Uses



## Exhibit E, Schedule A: Core Strategies

### *List of Opioid Remediation Uses: Treatment for Incarcerated Population*

- *Provide evidence-based treatment and recovery support, including MAT for persons with OUD and co-occurring SUD/MH disorders within and transitioning out of the criminal justice system; and*
- *Increase funding for jails to provide treatment to inmates with OUD.*

## Schedule B, Approved Uses: Support People in Treatment and Recovery

- *Support mobile intervention, treatment, and recovery services, offered by qualified professionals and service providers, such as peer recovery coaches, for persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions and for persons who have experienced an opioid overdose.*
- *Support or expand peer-recovery centers, which may include support groups, social events, computer access, or other services for persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions.*

## Schedule D, Approved Uses: Address the Needs of Criminal Justice-Involved Persons

- *Provide evidence-informed treatment, including MAT, recovery support, harm reduction, or other appropriate services to individuals with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions who are incarcerated in jail or prison.*
- *Provide evidence-informed treatment, including MAT, recovery support, harm reduction, or other appropriate services to individuals with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions who are leaving jail or prison or have recently left jail or prison, are on probation or parole, are under community corrections supervision, or are in re-entry programs or facilities.*

See: <https://ago.vermont.gov/divisions/consumer-protection/consumer-resources/health-and-product-safety/opioid-settlement>

# 18 V.S.A. § 4774: Opioid Abatement Special Fund



## Section 3: Disbursements

*(b) Expenditures from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund shall be used for the following opioid prevention, intervention, treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and evaluation activities:*

- 1. Preventing overdose deaths and other harms;*
- 2. Treatment of opioid use disorder;*
- 3. Support for individuals in treatment and recovery and their families;*
- 4. Connecting individuals who need help to the help needed;*
- 5. Addressing the needs of criminal justice-involved persons;*

*(c) Priority for expenditures from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund shall be aimed at reducing overdose deaths, including the following:*

*(6) treating incarcerated populations, specifically:*

- o (A) providing evidence-based or evidence-informed treatment and recovery support, including medication-assisted treatment for individuals with opioid use disorder or co-occurring substance use or mental health disorders while transitioning out of the criminal justice system; and*
- o (B) increasing funding for correctional facilities to provide treatment and recovery support to inmates with opioid use disorder*

See: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/093/04774>



# New Initiative: Implementation Funding

## Recovery Partners of Vermont & DOC Joint Partnership

- Core center project staffing: **\$900,000**
  - 1.5 FTEs x6 centers @\$100,000 per FTE per year
- Auxiliary center support: **\$350,000**
  - 0.5 FTEs x7 centers @\$100,000 per FTE per year
- Recovery Partners of Vermont administrative support & staffing: **\$100,000**
  - 0.275 FTE per year (includes 10% fund management)
  - Anticipated RPVT administrative costs: **~\$72,500**
- DOC administrative staffing/new coordination facilitation duties: **\$150,000**
  - Covers annual cost for staff time + 0.25 FTE project manager + executive oversight: **\$150,000**
- Total annual project cost: **\$1,500,000**
  - Total three-year project cost: **\$4,500,000\***

*\*Excludes anticipated ~\$325,000 program design grant funding from National Center on Restorative Justice (UVM-JRI/DOC/TPCR)*



# Questions & Discussion



# Contact

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