

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Bob Donnis <rdonnis@gmavt.net>
Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Bristol Town Administrator
Cc: Jennifer Mayhew
Subject: ARPA Funding Request for Turning Point Center of Addison County
Attachments: ARPA Fund Request Bristol 10172021.docx

Hello, Valarie!

I want to thank you for all you do for Bristol.

I have attached the funding request for Turning Point Center of Addison County. TPCAC is a non-profit whose mission is to help people in recovery from Substance Use Disorder/Addiction. COVID has made this even more important. We are asking Addison County towns to help increase our support for people in recovery.

Thank you very much.
Bob

To: Bristol Town Selectboard

October 17, 2021

Subject: ARPA Funding Request for Turning Point Center of Addison County (TPCAC)

An increase in overdose and suicide deaths across the country is shining the spotlight on how the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected those already struggling with substance use disorder. Deaths from drug overdose is the highest it has ever been in US history. Recent CDC data reported that from December 2019 to December 2020 the death toll is up 30% across the nation. In Vermont, deaths rose by 57.6 percent, the largest increase in the country. The Turning Point Center of Addison County (TPCAC) has responded by expanding our services to 24 hours/7 days a week.

TPCAC is peer-run and offers a safe and substance-free environment to support our mission: We provide peer-based recovery support to all including friends, families, and allies. We seek to enhance the spiritual, mental, and physical growth as well as foster social connection of our community members in Addison County affected by substance use disorders and addictive behaviors.

TPCAC has expanded our mental and behavioral health supports for the populations we serve by providing 24/7 access to a live Recovery Coach with an initiative called “Rapid Access Recovery Coaches.” This program is likely to decrease fatal/non-fatal overdoses and suicide by providing instant access to a video conferencing tool that can meet the immediate needs of those in recovery or people seeking treatment. The program improves our ongoing efforts to address overdose and suicide through linkage to evidence-based peer support treatment and recovery services for those at risk.

The staff of TPCAC experienced an 80% increase in participants receiving individual coaching from July of last year to June 2021. In the same period the center had over 9,100 individual guest sign-ins from all 22 towns in Addison County. Staff increased from 3 to 13 trained Recovery Coaches, now serving over 50 individuals. We have collaborated with 29 community partners and have embedded our staff at various locations to create a solid framework of support for those seeking recovery.

We deeply appreciate the past town financial support that Bristol has provided over the years. To continue our expansion of services please consider allocating \$55,000 of ARPA funding to TPCAC at this critical time so that we may continue to increase our impact in Addison County. The funding would contribute to supporting an additional staff member, COVID related IT expenses, and the move and expansion of our center in the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Bob Donnis
Board President

Jennifer Mayhew
Executive Director