

# Turning Point Center of Addison County



Agenda Item VII.2

To: Bristol Town Selectboard  
From: Danielle Wallace, Executive Director Turning Point Center of Addison County  
Date: May 8, 2023

Re: ARPA Town Funding Request

Dear Selectboard:

## **Request**

Turning Point Center of Addison County, Inc (“TPCAC”) respectfully requests the amount of \$55,565 in ARPA Town Funding for Pandemic Response. Vermont has sadly been a national leader in the area of per capita overdose deaths due to opioid misuse.

## **Who We Are**

TPCAC offers a safe, substance-free space to support our mission: We provide peer-based recovery support to all, including family members and allies. Our core mission is to enhance spiritual, mental, and physical growth as well as foster the social connection of those in our community impacted by substance use disorders (“SUD”) and addictive behaviors. We served more than eight hundred individuals in 2022 and also provided a hub for area recovery-focused groups, including some facilitated by TPCAC staff.

Our staff includes 7 nationally certified Recovery Coaches, now serving over 40 individuals. There are also 5 remote or per diem coaches. We have collaborated with many of our community partners and have embedded our staff at various locations (*including the **Hub Teen Center in Bristol, John Graham Shelter, Charter House, Valley Vista***) to create a solid framework of support for those seeking recovery.

## **Needs Being Funded**

This framework could be enhanced by expanding the Center hours to provide access to more people when they need it, rather than limiting access to weekday “business hours.” We contemplate extending weekday hours from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm, three days per week, and opening the Center on weekends for six hours each day.

As we have added staff and expanded programming, we have identified a need for regular training to maintain staff certifications and ensure we are using “best practices” in our work with those who need our help. Additional training will include one-on-one clinical supervision and group or classroom training. Our plan for expanded programming includes providing additional services to family members of those with SUD, as well as outreach to local schools in order to reach young people contemplating their choices in life. In fact, TPCAC staff are presenting two days this week for the students at Mt. Abraham High School.

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TPCAC 's response to the opioid overdose crisis has been to include around the clock access to a recovery coach online, as well as the same on call service to the Porter Medical Center Emergency Department. The online option involves an initiative called “Rapid Access Recovery Coaches.” This program seeks to decrease overdose and suicide by providing instant access to a video conferencing tool that meets the immediate needs of those in recovery or people seeking help. The same coaches who staff the online program are also available to respond to the Porter Medical Center ED, when a patient presents with SUD implications. The key to this program’s success is the possibility of meeting people who are at a critical decision point in their lives as a result of their experience with SUD.

## **Conclusion**

The Town of Bristol has been generous in its support of Turning Point in the past, for which we are very grateful. Please consider allocating \$55,565 of ARPA funding to TPCAC so that we may continue to increase our services to people in Addison County and Bristol in particular.

Danielle Wallace, MARJ  
Executive Director  
Turning Point Center of Addison County, Inc.

<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>	<b>DETAIL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>ON CALL COSTS – UNMET COSTS</b>	24/7 Access to a Recovery Coach Online and in the Porter MC ED.	\$10,500
<b>FAMILY PROGRAMMING</b>	\$25/hr. Base Salary + Fringe Benefits x day/week	\$10,300
<b>STAFF TRAINING</b>	\$25/hr. Base Salary + Fringe Benefits x day/week	\$10,300
<b>EXPANDED CENTER HOURS</b>	\$25/HR. Base Salary + Fringe Benefits x 12 weekend hours and 9 weekday hours.	\$27,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$60,635
<b>LESS ARPA REQUEST</b>		\$55,565
<b>NET</b>	(TPCAC CONTRIBUTION)	\$2,535