



Valley Regional Healthcare

Quality care with a hometown touch.

For Immediate Release

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Valley Regional Healthcare Awarded Peer Recovery Funds

Valley Regional Healthcare has received a grant that will fund two recovery coaches in their Emergency Department (through The Center for Recovery Resources) to assist individuals with addiction, substance misuse, and related behavioral health needs through peer support/coaching, resource navigation, and community connections, offering the patient a warm hand-off from the Emergency Department to a local service/services, which will help guide them on their recovery path. These include, but are not limited to TLC Family Resource Center, West Central Behavioral Health, NH Works (and other programs that support workforce development), Dartmouth-Hitchcock, and Better Life Partners, which The Center for Recovery Resources recently began working with to offer recovery-focused MAT services in The Center.

According to Wayne Miller, Program Manager for The Center for Recovery Resources in Claremont, "Our work with Better Life Partners is currently directed toward people experiencing an opiate addiction who can benefit from medication-assistance as one tool in their recovery process, but our work in the Emergency Department at Valley Regional is not limited to any particular substance or chemical dependency. The philosophy of The Center for Recovery Resources is that addiction is addiction. We provide support and resources to individuals and families impacted by addiction, regardless of the substance or behavior."

"The needs of our patients are diverse and ever changing, so we approach our outreach and collaborative efforts with the same mindset.", states Robin Caissie, Senior Director of Development and Community Engagement for Valley Regional. "There are very few areas of an individual's life that are not impacted by active addiction, so we will continue to pursue working relationships with as many different providers, organizations, and agencies as we can to support the recovery process."

"Often times, when a patient with addictive use disorder presents in our Emergency Department, our ED providers just aren't equipped to work with these patients.", according to Jenn Seymour, Director of Emergency Services at Valley Regional. "If there is nothing physically wrong with the patient (no need to be in the ED) they will be discharged with no warm handoff. This has been a clear gap in care for our patients at Valley Regional. Through the use of recovery coaches, we will be able to provide our patients the support they truly need as addicts."

A recovery coach is trained to communicate with individuals at any stage, including those who might be actively under the influence of substances or experiencing withdrawal. They also know how to connect these patients with other recovery resources within the community to ensure they get the proper care after leaving the ED as well as adequate follow-up care. Caissie stresses, "This is paramount when someone is trying to recover, and is one way we can help support our patients and community members by bridging this gap, and providing them with a full continuum of care".

Valley Regional Healthcare

Valley Regional Healthcare provides essential healthcare services to our region through our critical-access hospital, and primary and specialty care clinics. For 125 years, our hospital has adapted to serve the many and diverse health care needs of the region. We serve families and individuals in the Sullivan County region to help them stay healthy and thriving. For more information about Valley Regional Healthcare and its services, visit www.VRH.org.