



## **ADDICTION RECOVERY IN MASSACHUSETTS – A PROPOSED MODEL FOR SUCCESS**

**Our goal is the growth of recovery treatment services in Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts commensurate with the magnitude of the current opioid crisis and to create a recovery atmosphere of dignity and respect for those suffering from addiction that focuses not only on recovery but also on long term stability.**

**Our current quantity and breadth of addiction services is not sufficient to handle the crisis of addiction that we are faced with in the Commonwealth. We need to create a more holistic approach surrounding the treatment of the addicted by providing a safe environment in which they can manage their health, work to overcome addiction, and manage any mental illness.**

**The NBA and NCP suggest a state-of-the-art location where we  
(City/Commonwealth/Healthcare Providers)**

- a. Offer extensive individual services, including medical care, mental health treatment addiction recovery programs, and job/life skill counselling and programs,
- b. Invest in the facilities and staffing necessary to provide the continuum of care that will insure that all who wish to recover are afforded the ability to do so.  
This campus should include:  
Medical Facilities (in-patient, out-patient and medical practitioners)  
Mental Health Facilities  
Addiction Recovery Facilities
- c. Invest in short-term micro-unit housing, providing those in recovery a supervised transition to a normalized life.
- d. Invest in life skills and job training programs for those in recovery that can lead to meaningful job readiness.
- e. Treat the addicted with greater dignity and respect, rather than regarding this population as incapable of getting better.

**SUGGESTED CHANGE:** To provide a protected state-of-the-art campus-style setting for the addicted looking to recover, removed from current dangers and vulnerabilities on the streets of Massachusetts.

Benefits of this approach include:

1. Ensuring that service providers are able to provide “service on demand” by committing the necessary dollars to create such a facility.
2. Reversing the current spike in the number of overdoses and related deaths.
3. Removing those who want to recover from where they currently are, whether they are alone in apartments or sleeping on concrete sidewalks, defecating in alleyways, and impaired such that they weave into the street in front of oncoming traffic. These people are dying on our streets and we need to provide a protected environment where they are not subject to drug dealers on every corner and where they can recover under the watchful eyes of service providers.
4. Alleviating the current overcrowding of local emergency rooms and drain on Emergency Service Providers.
5. Increasing the availability of treatment services.
6. Creating real addiction recovery for a greater number of individuals.
7. Meeting this population’s needs for shelter, security, and comfort with a more dignified and humanistic approach.
8. Reducing police and security costs currently required to ensure the safety of the community.
9. Establishing a less conducive environment for drug dealers and others looking to prey upon the addicted.

**SPECIFIC SOLUTION:** Design and build a state-of-the-art Addiction Recovery Health Campus in the Boston area. This campus should be a prototype for additional Campuses in other areas of the Commonwealth so that those seeking recovery can have access to services near where they live.

Specific suggestions for this campus include the Shattuck Hospital area in Boston and Long Island, in Boston Harbor. A Cost and Feasibility Study should be undertaken to determine the scope and cost of each of these locations.

Addiction in the Commonwealth today, affects EVERYONE. It is imperative that this solution also be shared by many. Boston, the Commonwealth, Charitable Funders, Corporations, Businesses and others need to come together to insure the viability of this Campus.

**We have seen the exponential increase in addiction and addiction related deaths over the past few years. We need to reverse this process. What we have outlined here is not the solution to stopping addiction from happening, however, it is the process by which we can insure that those who are addicted have the best chance at recovery.**