



**Commonwealth of Kentucky
Cabinet for Health and Family Services**

Andy Beshear, Governor

Eric Friedlander, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Kentucky Opioid Response Effort Announces New
Recovery Community Center Grants**

Grants to provide \$1.5 million over two years

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Jan. 13, 2021) – The [Kentucky Opioid Response Effort](#) (KORE) has announced the award of four grants to support the establishment or expansion of four Recovery Community Centers. The grants total \$1.5 million to be awarded over two years.

New grant recipients include [Recovery Café](#) in Lexington, [Achieving Recovery Together](#) (ART) in Winchester, and [Shepherd's House](#) in Nicholasville. [Voices of Hope](#) (VOH) Recovery Community Center in Lexington, which had previously received KORE funding in support of its services, will receive a new round of funding to launch mobile recovery support services to more communities within the Lexington, Frankfort, and Louisville areas.

“The grants will provide a tremendous lift with the implementation of expanding access to the recovery support services,” said Governor Andy Beshear. “It’s always good news when more Kentuckians have more opportunities to embrace these services, which are proven to improve the overall wellbeing of those in need.”

“KORE is happy to support the establishment of additional recovery community centers to build on our infrastructure of support services in Kentucky,” said Dr. Katherine Marks, KORE Project Director. “Recovery Community Centers provide

an array of services that help individuals get the support they need within their own communities to build recovery capital and sustain long-term remission and recovery.”

Eric Friedlander, secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, of which KORE is an agency, said, “We are grateful to these organizations and the communities they serve for partnering with us to expand access to life-sustaining recovery services in our Commonwealth.”

In 2019, KORE announced funding awards to six Recovery Community Centers in Lexington, Louisville, Manchester, Hazard, Newport, and Paducah to provide centralized resources for community-based recovery supports. Since that time, all six centers have opened, linking over 3,300 individuals to various services, including employment support, mutual aid, legal aid, peer support, and networking with others in the recovery community.

The new grantees will receive funding utilizing State Opioid Response (SOR) dollars, a federal grant awarded to the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in support of state opioid response efforts. The new centers are expected to open by in early 2021.

Grant recipients said the additional funding arrives at a critical time as community-based organizations continue to address effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including an increase in overdose deaths and individuals in recovery who experience a return to use.

“Because of the rise in isolation and overdose deaths with Covid-19, we need a mobile recovery center to truly meet people ‘where they are’. We will provide strength based recovery support services to empower people who use drugs, people experiencing homelessness and people living in historically underserved neighborhoods to improve their health and wellbeing and reduce their risk of overdose.” said VOH Program Director, Amanda Fallin-Bennett, PhD, RN.

Grant dollars will help RCCs expand services and reach more individuals from the recovery community, furthering the mission of opioid response efforts in the commonwealth.

“Recovery Café Lexington is honored to be a new recipient of KORE funding,” said Joshua Mauldin, RCLex Co-Founder. “This grant will significantly increase our capacity to serve folks who are struggling with addiction, mental health issues, and homelessness. Our operating hours will more than quadruple as we launch innovative peer-based services aimed at empowering vulnerable folks to find stability through community. We are an organization run by and for people in recovery and we are keenly aware of the ongoing challenges facing our state. We are grateful for this opportunity and hope our work will help Kentucky heal.”

About KORE

KORE seeks to expand and sustain a comprehensive, equitable recovery-oriented system of care to end the opioid epidemic that has reached into every community in Kentucky. Through the administration of federal funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, KORE supports the implementation of evidence-based prevention, treatment and recovery supports to effect change at the state, community, family and individual levels. Connect with the program on Facebook at [@KyOpioidResponse](#).

About Voices of Hope

Voices of Hope is a Lexington-based recovery support organization. Its overarching goal is to enhance the quantity and quality of support available to people seeking and experiencing long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction. Connect with VOH [online at their website](#) or on Facebook at [@VoicesOfHopeLexington](#).

About Recovery Cafe

Recovery Café Lexington, [Home - Recovery Café Lexington \(recoverycafelexington.org\)](#), is a community space for people in recovery from substance use disorder, mental health issues, and housing insecurity. As an emerging member of the national Recovery Café Network, we provide a healthy and compassionate space aimed at empowering people in recovery. For more information, connect with Recovery Café' by telephone at (859) 523-0590, or on Facebook or Instagram at [@recoverycafelex](#) and [@recoverycafelex](#).

About Achieving Recovery Together

ART is a Recovery Community Organization serving Clark County and surrounding areas. ART is an independent, non-profit organization focused on community education, outreach, and Peer-Based Support Services. The people who lead and govern ART are part of the local recovery community. Connect with ART on Facebook at [@Achievingrecoverytogether](#).

About Shepherd's House

Founded in 1985 to address unmet need for local recovery services, Shepherd's

House now provides a variety of programs throughout Central Kentucky, including mutual aid, counseling, and recovery housing. Connect with Shepherd's on Facebook at [@TheShepHouse](#).

-30-

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is home to most of the state's human services and health care programs, including the Department for Medicaid Services; the Department for Community Based Services; the Department for Public Health; the Department for Aging and Independent Living; and the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. CHFS is one of the largest agencies in state government, with nearly 8,000 full- and part-time employees located across the Commonwealth focused on improving the lives and health of Kentuckians.