

Volunteers of America, Utah - Recovery on Redwood

Providing additional detox beds and behavioral health counseling to those in need

Overview of Needs/Gaps: Left untreated, substance use disorders wreak havoc on families, the economy, public safety, and individual quality of life. Drug overdose is the leading cause of accidental death in Utah. Volunteers of America, Utah (VOA) has been helping Utahns battle substance addiction for over 36 years, but the need has grown. A daily average of 10 individuals were turned down at the VOA's previous facility due to lack of space. To keep pace with growing need, Volunteers of America is expanding its 24/7 detoxification and counseling services.

Proposed Budget: \$1,500,000

Volunteers of America: \$1,500,000 (Capital Contribution)

Summary:

At the request of the Mayor's office to provide access to treatment for those struggling with substance use and misuse, the Human Service Department supports Volunteers of America expansion of services at their new facility, Recovery on Redwood, which will increase the number of detox beds by 50, and anticipate serving 3,300 clients annually. In addition, the new facility will serve an additional 981 behavioral health clients per year through Cornerstone Counseling.

These beds provide immediate placement, offering safe haven for those experiencing the hardships of street life and addiction. Salt Lake County and the VOA have a strong partnership in addressing and meeting the needs of individuals dealing with opioid addiction and recovery. This effort enhances the continuum of behavioral health services.

The Impact:

The new facility will create a more seamless and efficient continuum of behavioral health services, as it will co-locate the detoxification centers and the Cornerstone Counseling Center, which provides behavioral services to vulnerable individuals and families, helping them on their path to recovery.

The facility includes dorm sleeping areas with 165 beds, restrooms, a commercial kitchen, group rooms, intake areas, and staff offices. It offers a safe place for men and woman to complete their first step to recovery – detoxification. During their stay, participants complete the detoxification process, attend 12-step meetings, and receive support from professional staff. Each client meets with a case manager who helps them determine their appropriate level of treatment and provides referral to other needed human services, helping clients build relapse prevention skills and improve long-term recovery. Cornerstone Counseling offers all levels of outpatient treatment, including ACT (Assertive Community Treatment) teams for people with severe and persistent mental illness.

Each year, approximately 7,000 individuals will benefit from the range of services at Recovery on Redwood.