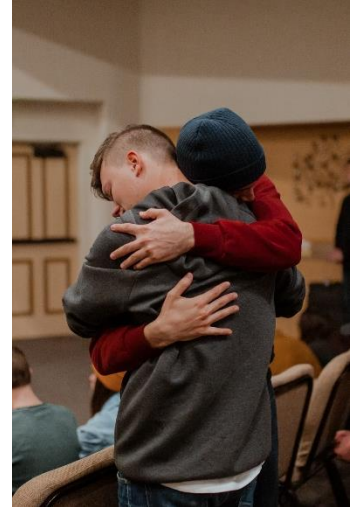




BIENNIAL REPORT 2020-2021

Expanding to Serve 21% More Individuals In Spite of Challenges of Pandemic

In the past two years, as Covid-19 created not only a public health emergency but a mental health crisis, Freedom House remained fully operational -- even as other similar programs were limiting admissions or temporarily closing -- in order to ensure individuals could maintain their treatment and recovery as the pandemic languished. By May 2020, New Jersey was experiencing a surge in addiction rates with nearly 10 overdose deaths per day, triggered by COVID-19 and the resulting isolation, job losses and anxiety that made it extremely hard for individuals in recovery and at risk of addiction to maintain their sobriety. In spite of the challenges of the pandemic, Freedom House expanded its ability to reach more individuals in recovery as a result of its capital campaign by opening two new programs and serving 21% more clients year-over-year from 2020 to 2021.



Telehealth Services Established

Freedom House pivoted our outpatient services to virtual telehealth services during the heights of the pandemic to accommodate individuals receiving outpatient treatment and counseling. We recognized the benefits for ease of access, particularly among individuals without transportation, and based on positive client engagement, Freedom House subsequently established a permanent telehealth option to augment our in-person treatment and counseling in the Outpatient Services programs.

New Morristown Program Opens

Freedom House opened our newest substance abuse residential recovery program in Morristown in February 2020 only weeks before COVID-19 emerged and continued to accept admissions and provide services throughout the pandemic. The 15-bed facility provides a sober and supportive environment for individuals to sustain their recovery, providing a home-



like setting for the men residing here as they prepare to integrate back into society. Residents function as a family, sharing responsibilities and being accountable to each other, and to the program. Our staff provide case management, recovery support services and on-site support with the goal of helping residents transition to independent living. The downtown Morristown location of the new program also provides access to area employment opportunities and public transportation. In 2021, the program is officially named the Egan House in honor of the generosity of donor Roger Egan and his family.

A Second Residential Recovery Program Opens in Phillipsburg

Freedom House further expanded our residential recovery housing facilities to reach more individuals struggling with addiction as research shows that one year is a critical point in recovery. Twelve months of sobriety actually changes the brain and enhances a person's success for long-term, sustained recovery. To expand opportunities for sustained recovery, Freedom House opened yet another residential recovery program in our service area of Phillipsburg, a community where we also provide outpatient services, in December 2021.

Freedom House Earns Highest Level of CARF Accreditation

CARF International accredited Freedom House for a period of three years for its Outpatient Services in Clinton and Phillipsburg and Halfway House in Glen Gardner. This represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to an organization and evidences our substantial conformance to CARF standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process and demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable, and of the highest quality. CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of the persons served.



Recovery Can't Wait Campaign Launches to Expand Program and Services

As demand for our programs has outpaced capacity, Freedom House launched a major Growth and Sustainability Campaign to raise \$2.8 million over the next several years to save lives by affording more individuals access to treatment and recovery services. The Recovery Can't Wait Campaign aims to raise capital to create additional facilities to reach more individuals struggling with addiction, including plans to replicate our successful Family Afterward program reuniting mothers-in-recovery with their children. The Campaign has helped establish two new residential programs to date.

A Continuing Model of Success

Our rates of recovery continued to be exemplary last year. Even as we faced the challenges of keeping our residents, clients and staff safe, we remained focused on the best outcomes for those we serve and even increased staffing to safeguard our clients during the isolation, increased anxiety and job losses resulting from COVID-19. For our Halfway House, our largest and most intensive residential program, more than 98% of individuals graduated sober and abstinent; 87% were employed in spite of the pandemic; and all reported improved family relationships and continuing participation in recovery support services. Abstinence rates were also at 98% for clients in our outpatient services programs, which is above the success rate for other similar programs in the State.



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