

# Opioid Abatement Working Group

## Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2025

### Attendance:

- Nicole Palermo, City of Revere SUDHI Office
- Lauren Buck, City of Revere Public Health Department
- Debbie Hascom, Revere Resident
- Nikki Rossi, Health Innovations
- Joe Internicola, Revere PD
- Joe Singer, Revere PD
- Kirby Taylor, Health Innovations
- Matt Parlante, Power of Recovery
- Chris "BC" Godfrey, Revere Resident
- Greg Manetti, Revere Boxing
- George Caponigro, Revere Resident
- Joe Gravellese, Chair of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund

### Agenda:

- Reviewed last meeting's minutes
- Review of 5-year spending plan
  - o 40% Housing Bucket
  - o 30% Prevention and Community Engagement
  - o 30% Harm Reduction
- Joe Gravellese to present on the work that is already happening
- Finalize the Housing Bucket

### Discussion:

- What type of housing work is already happening?
  - o Reviewed the Eviction Prevention work that happens in the Public Health Office through Housing Families, annual contract right now that is covered by ARPA
  - o Coordinated Entry work for traditionally homeless people through the SUDHI Office
    - Have successfully housed over 20 people including some families
    - State program where people are graded on a criteria and then put into a waitlist for supportive housing
    - Typically single room occupancy programs, sometimes one or two bedrooms pop up
    - Only take 30% of income, so people who don't have any income coming in can still qualify
    - Very low threshold
- Discussion about Affordable Housing Trust Fund work

- Currently working on a project with TND to fund affordable rental unit property on the beach. AHTF puts in some money to unlock state and federal funds
- 1<sup>st</sup> time homeowner program – could create a separate applicant pool specially for people in recovery or those affected by opioid use disorder
- Other ideas: Voucher program for sober homes or detox placements
  - From experience people placed in free DPH beds rarely stay sober
- Other ideas: contract with a landlord agency to incentivize taking Section 8 vouchers
- Other ideas: program to cover 1<sup>st</sup>, last, security, moving costs, furniture or something like that
- Master Lease program idea- something that AHTF could serve as the Master Leasor
- Decision is to focus on the more vulnerable population – renters rather than people in the position to be homeowners

Final Decision from today's meeting is to focus in the following projects in some capacity:

- Voucher program for sober homes or detox beds
- Program that would help support first, last, security, moving and placement costs- similar to "Up and Out Fund"
- Master Lease program in partnership with the Affordable Housing Trust Fund
- Still be open to partnership with developer for rental units down the road

Next Meeting/Action Steps:

- Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 6:00
- Discussion will be focused on Harm Reduction
- No special guest- experts are in the room already