

Community Information Session:
Carroll County Recovery Housing
for Mothers and their Children



ADDICTION HEALING CENTER

MISSION FOOD PROGRAM

WestminsterRescueMission.org

658 Lucabaugh Mill Road
Westminster, MD 21157



OUR MISSION



The Westminster Rescue Mission is a community that provides clinical, physical, and spiritual resources to heal the addicted and feed the hungry. We take a holistic approach with Christ as the foundation of our work.

Welcome and Overview

Purpose and Goals

- Provide an accurate overview of mothers and children's program and plans
- Highlight community perspectives
- Answer community questions

Administrative Details

- Question cards available at welcome table
- Silence Phones
- Fire exits and restrooms

Introductions

Language and Terminology:

Language Matters:

- Use dignified, person-centered language to honor the resilience of individuals in recovery.
- Avoid outdated and stigmatizing terms like "halfway house."

The Truth About Recovery Housing:

- This is not a "halfway house" or treatment facility; it is a supportive, structured environment for mothers and their children to live.
- Designed to provide stability, healing, and the tools for long-term independence.

A Call for Compassion:

- Words can harm the broader recovery community in Carroll County.
- Stigma discourages those struggling with addiction from seeking help, perpetuating cycles of pain and isolation.⁴

Westminster Rescue Mission – A Trusted, Local Partner

A Legacy of Service:

- Faith-based
- Over 50 years serving Carroll County residents (since 1968).
- Located less than 10 minutes away on Lucabaugh Mill Road. (Thoughtfully chosen rural location promotes healing in a tranquil environment.)

Expertise in Recovery and Rehabilitation:

- CARF-accredited programming for Residential and Outpatient care.
- Services include:
 - Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment (ASAM Levels 3.1, 3.3, & 3.5)
 - Outpatient Care
 - Recovery housing



Alignment with Community Values & Needs:

- Food insecurity addressed through the Mission Food Program, redistributing food to 26 partner organizations and offering mobile distribution.
- Engagement with dozens of churches and faith-based groups across Carroll County.
- Commitment to partnerships.

Understanding the Need:

Recovery Housing for Mothers and their Children

The Challenge

- 1 in 6 Marylanders battled a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) in the past year.¹
- 70% of women in treatment are mothers, often facing the heart-wrenching choice between pursuing recovery and being with their kids.²
- Carroll County lacks housing for these moms to remain with their children.

Carroll County

- Nearly 1,500 women visited the ER with a Substance Use Disorder diagnosis (2022-2023).³
- 87 women lost lives (2019-2023).⁴



The Opportunity

- Provide stable, supportive housing.
- Reduce healthcare/emergency strain.
- Offer vocational training, education.
- Keep mothers and children together for stronger recovery outcomes.



¹National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2023 (USDUH) – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

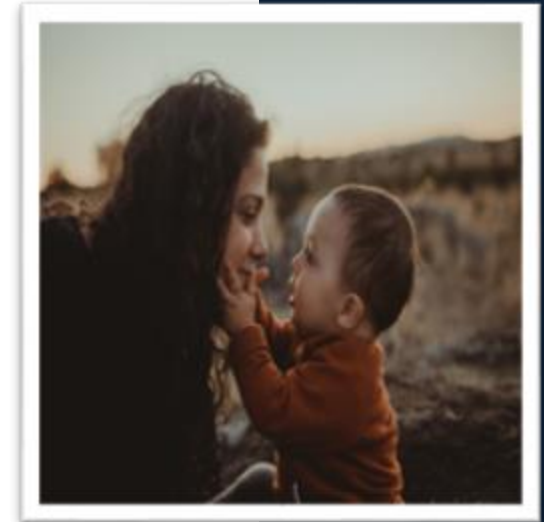
²The Center for Children and Family Futures, prepared for SAMHSA – 2007

³HSCRC data, accessed via Crisp Public Health Dashboard; presentation data updated 1/15/2024

⁴BHA and VSA, Maryland Department of Health (MDH), preliminary data accessed via Crisp Overdose Fatality Dashboard

Addressing the Need

OUR MISSION IN ACTION



Many and Varied.

Different people require different supports

- Inpatient and Residential Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Recovery Networks (i.e. AA, NA, Celebrate Recovery)
- Recovery Housing

Recovery Housing Varies

- Different levels of supervision (peer-run, house management, supervised, clinical)

Certifications and Accreditations:

Maryland Certification of Recovery Residence (M CORR) – Level 3 - Supervised.
[Requires National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) Quality Standards.]

Many and Varied.



Our Recovery Residence

- ✓ Supervised
- ✓ Policies and Procedures with contact information and timely response plans
- ✓ Resident and Staff orientation includes guidance on neighbor interaction.
- ✓ Documented Courtesy Rules covering:
 - Outdoor noise and property cleanliness.
 - Vehicles, parking and shared road use.
 - Respectful behavior: avoiding loitering, offensive language, and improper smoking practices.

Certifications and Accreditations:

Maryland Certification of Recovery Residence (M CORR) – Level 3 - Supervised.
[Requires National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) Quality Standards.]

Welcome Home

Our Program Highlights:

- Safe, Stable Housing
- Comprehensive Support Services
- Experienced Staff and Community Partnerships:
Holistic Recovery Approach
- Our Impact: Keeping Families Together and
Building Stronger Futures
- A Community-Fueled Mission Backed by Strong
Partnerships



Creating a Safe and Supportive Space

The Program

- Goals for Mothers:
 - Employment and/or continuing education
 - Life Skills (i.e. budgeting, parenting, healthy living)
 - Independent Living
 - Sober living skills
- **Maximum Capacity:** 8 individuals (including live-in caretaker) based on zoning
- Small, focused, family-oriented: 2–4 mothers and their children
- Dedicated staffing: Live-in Caretaker, House Manager and Recovery Coordinator/Case Manager

Security measures:

- Live-in Caretaker
- House Rules & Accountability
- Good Neighbor Policy and Procedures to foster community collaboration
- Security System



Addressing Neighbor Concerns

FACTS, SAFETY & COMMUNITY IMPACT

Property and Zoning

Zoning Compliance:

- Fully compliant with existing zoning; no rezoning required.
- Functions as a supportive recovery residence, not a healthcare facility.

Capacity and Structure:

- Designed for up to 8 individuals, including 2–4 mothers and their children.
- Leverages nearby WRM services to minimize neighborhood traffic.

Property Values:

- **More than 50 scientific studies** found that community residences for people with disabilities, including recovery residences, **do not harm property values or marketability**, neighborhood turnover **or safety**.¹



¹(National Council for Mental Well-Being and National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) – “Building Recovery – State Policy Guide”

Other Resources:

- Substance Use Disorder Treatment Centers and Property Values – National Bureau of Economic Research

Safety in Our Community¹

Neighborhood Safety

- Research shows that recovery homes do **not increase crime rates** or reduce neighborhood safety.

Positive Community Impact

- Recovery home residents actively **contribute to community well-being** through:
 - Mentoring others in recovery (63%).
 - Running or supporting local recovery groups (44%).
 - Volunteering with youth, fundraisers, and community organizations (23-32%).

Supporting Local Stability

- Residents dedicate **10+ hours/month** to community involvement.

Environmental Considerations

Preservation of Landscape:

- No major changes planned to natural features
- Commitment to maintaining the serene, rural environment essential for recovery.

Animal Care and Habitat Maintenance:

- Plan to purchase and care for existing animals on the property.
- Commitment to preserving their habitats, ensuring proper maintenance.

No New Development:

- No plans for new construction (i.e. warehouses, additional, housing).
- Property will remain dedicated solely to its current purpose.

Environmental Stewardship:

- View the property as a community asset and pledge responsible stewardship.



Listening and Leading

PARTNER VOICES AND COMMUNITY Q&A

Community Support & Partnerships

Shared mission: Supporting women and children in rebuilding their lives and contributing to a resilient community.

- This program has received enthusiastic support from influential organizations and leaders in Carroll County.
- Partners, all committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for recovery, include health systems, government agencies, law enforcement, and mental health organizations:
 - Access Carroll Integrated Health Care
 - Carroll Hospital
 - Carroll County Health Department
 - Carroll County Department of Social Services
 - Carroll County Sheriff's Office
 - Carroll County State's Attorney
 - Westminster City Chief of Police

Questions and Answers

Your Opportunity to Ask Questions:

- To give as many people a chance to speak as possible, each person will have 1 minute to ask questions.
- **Question Cards (and pens):** Available at the welcome table to help organize your thoughts.
- Unanswered questions? Submit a Question Card.

Follow-Up:

- Any unanswered questions will be included in a document, and responses will be provided via email.
- Please provide your email address at the welcome table if you'd like to receive follow-up responses.

The Westminster Rescue Mission

Our Vision

A community where every individual has the opportunity to heal, grow, and contribute positively.

Our Commitment

To provide a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment for mothers and their children as they rebuild their lives, while preserving the integrity and values of our community.

Our Gratitude

Thank you for your time, questions, and input. We value your role as neighbors and community members and look forward to working together for mutual success.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

WESTMINSTER RESCUE MISSION

658 Lucabaugh Mill Rd

Westminster, MD 21157

(410) 848 - 2222

info@westminsterrescuemission.org

www.WestminsterRescueMission.org



THANK YOU



Appendix – Sources

Slide 13: Safety in Our Community (Sources):

- (Jason LA, Ferrari JR. Oxford House Recovery Homes: Characteristics and Effectiveness. Psychol Serv. 2010 May;7(2):92-102. doi: 10.1037/a0017932. PMID: 20577571; PMCID: PMC2888149.)
https://www.academia.edu/24084992/Oxford_House_Recovery_Homes_Characteristics_and_Effectiveness
- (National Council for Mental Wellbeing, National Alliance for Recovery Residences. Building Recovery: State Policy Guide for Supporting Recovery Housing. 2018. <https://narronline.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Building-Recovery-State-Policy-Guide-for-Supporting-Recovery-Housing-2018.pdf>

Other Resources:

- National Alliance for Recovery Residences; <https://narronline.org>
- National Council for Mental Wellbeing; <https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/>
- Rural Community Action Guide;
<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/rural-community-action-guide.pdf>