



PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE
OF RECOVERY RESIDENCES

Philadelphia, PA 19124
www.parronline.org

RECEIVED

Apr 06 2021

Independent Regulatory
Review Commission

Chairman Frank Farry
PA House Human Service Committee
18 East Wing / PO Bo 202142
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2142

4/6/2021

Dear Chairman Farry,

Thank you for your firm support concerning addressing the Standards for Drug and Alcohol Recovery House Licensure. You have received letters from the Bucks County Recovery House Association, the National Alliance for Recovery Residences and Pro-A and possibly others that PARR is not aware of at this time.

It would be redundant on PARR's part to continue to echo everyone's displeasure with these non-hospital residential facilities regulations that are being placed on pure recovery residences and sober homes. As one of the original invited members of the certified drug and alcohol recovery housing task force formed by former secretary Gary Tennis and the only organization conducting annual onsite reviews and certifying recovery residences in the State of Pennsylvania using the NARR standards let me change directions and put a face on the effect of this recovery house license on operators.

PARR certification is and has been voluntary since 2014 and at present has worked with and build relationships with over 62 recovery residence organizations in Pennsylvania and 9 with the State of Delaware and has certified 222 recovery residences that encompasses 2,371 beds in Pennsylvania. (www.parronline.org)

98% of owner/operators of recovery residences are themselves in recovery and have lived in a recovery residence/sober home at some point during their recovery journey that continues daily with working with the men, women and women and children living in their recovery homes and assisting them with becoming self-sufficient so one day they can live in their own home or apartment. The good owners/operators that now run recovery residences that are PARR certified and others that are well run do it because its in their heart to want to help others and create an environment conducive to recovery.

Since the release of the recovery house license many of the owner/operators are obviously overly concerned around pending costs that these regulations will affect their ability to continue operations without passing these costs to the residents who are already struggling with limited financial means for themselves.

DDAP estimates that approximately 500 recovery houses will seek licensure, PARR finds that incredibly hard to believe that 500 recovery homes can absorb the costs of obtaining this as written recovery house license.

PARR welcomes a discussion on how the certification process for recovery residences can be efficient and cost effective and does not penalize the owner/operators.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred Way". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Fred" and "Way" being capitalized and prominent.

Fred Way, Executive Director, PARR

CC: Jordan Lewis, PhD, Policy Director, DDAP

*Erin Raub, Executive Director, House Human Services Committee
IRRC via irrc@irrc.state.pa.us*