

Sebastian then . . .

*“At 37 years old, I had no hope and no place to live. I lost my family, my job, my driver’s license.... my identity to drugs and alcohol.” At age 19, Sebastian was diagnosed with a Bipolar Disorder. Five years later, following the death of his mother, Sebastian turned to alcohol and other drugs and alcohol to deal with his pain. He was cycling through acute care facilities and spent time in correctional institutions. Sebastian believes his journey to recovery truly began one year ago when, with the support of his case manager, he was able to access a bed in one of the DMHAS Recovery Houses.*

Recovery House

The Recovery House is one of the three programs that provide wrap-around community based services (i.e. food, shelter, clothing, transportation, etc.) that are available to adult residents of Connecticut who are eligible for State Administered General Assistance (SAGA). The Recovery Houses, along with the GA Intensive Case Management Program and the Basic Needs Program, offer SAGA recipients a uniquely integrated system of community-based supports. Now nearly three years old, the Recovery House program was designed to provide a safe, clean, and sober environment to adults who have a substance use or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. People may enter the Recovery House directly from an acute care episode (i.e. “detox”) or from a community setting (i.e. homeless shelter) if they are engaging in an outpatient ambulatory detoxification protocol. The goal is safe and sober transitional living, while the resident works on integrating relapse prevention skills, and achieving autonomy—gainful employment and independent living in their community.

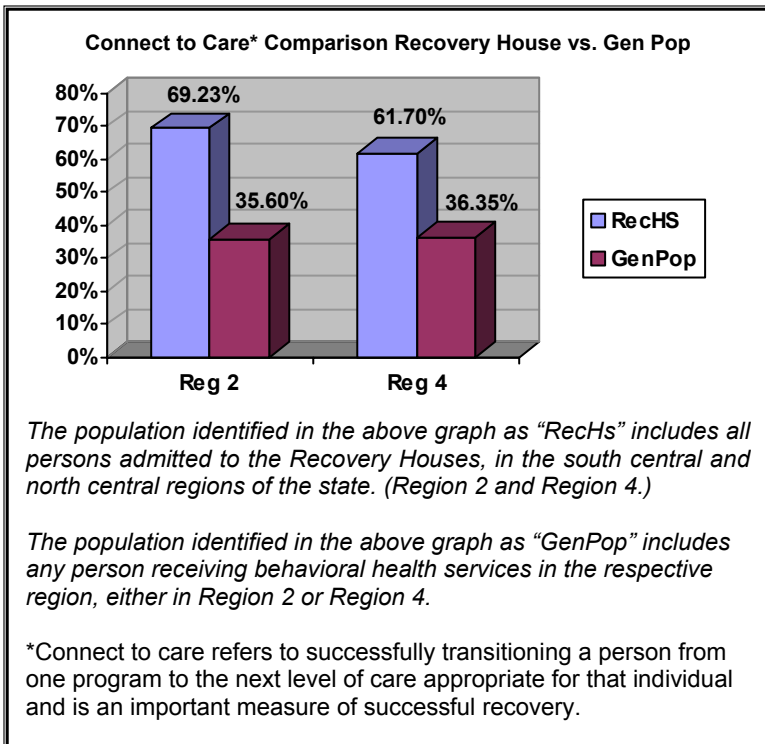
Using a person-centered approach, staff at the Recovery House work with Advanced Behavioral Health’s Intensive Case Managers to develop an individualized plan for treatment of each resident in the program. The DMHAS Recovery Houses are operated by DMHAS-funded regional provider agencies and have served over **475 individuals** between 07/01/02 and 01/31/04. Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center (ADRC), in Hartford, and The Connection, in New Haven, have each taken over **225 unduplicated** clients into their Recovery Houses.

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*While in residence at the Recovery House, Sebastian learned the life skills necessary to reclaim his position in the community. Just three months ago, Sebastian celebrated his first year of sobriety. He now has his own apartment and his former employer gave him his old job back. He credits the Recovery House with providing him a safe and supportive transitional living environment during his early recovery.*

George . . .

*George has just completed an episode of acute care. He is working with his case manager to find suitable treatment. Like Sebastian, George expresses gratitude for the DMHAS Recovery House. “I would have been on the street without the Recovery House.”*



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