



For Immediate Release

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Statement of Jay Phillips of Seed Sower, Inc.

In recent days, we have observed some uncertainty and confusion surrounding the planned signing of the Inclusive Recovery Charter (IRC) in Beckley, W.Va. We understand that there may be concerns based on a potential misunderstanding of what an IRC entails.

The purpose of an Inclusive Recovery City is not to establish a sanctuary city or initiate a radical shift in approach. It is not a program designed to attract or increase any capacity, and it requires no city funding, assets, or grants to implement. The intended was envisioned as a moment to celebrate the ongoing collaborative efforts within our community, involving our valuable partners.

Our overarching goal is to express our commitment to individuals struggling with addiction in Beckley and southern West Virginia, conveying that they matter, and that we aim to provide ample opportunities for them to pursue recovery within a supportive community. Our vision is not to isolate or exclude but to walk alongside them, offering hope, encouragement, and assertive connections to existing community resources.

Understanding the importance of community understanding and support for such initiatives, we recognize the need to address concerns and foster open dialogue. Instead of proceeding with the planned event, we have decided to shift our focus to a presentation and community Q&A

session. This will provide an opportunity for meaningful dialogue, allowing everyone to voice their concerns and listen with open minds and hearts. We believe this approach aligns more closely with the spirit of an Inclusive Recovery City.

The presentation and community Q&A session is starting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 19, and will be held at 410 Neville Street in downtown Beckley. For those who would like more in-depth information on the IRC model, its history, what it is and is not, we encourage you to attend an Inclusive Recovery Workshop the night prior, from 6 – 7 p.m. on Monday, March 18, also being held at the auditorium at 410 Neville Street in downtown Beckley in downtown Beckley.

We invite you to join us in the conversation, as your input is invaluable in shaping the future of our community.

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Seed Sower, Inc. – Our first priority is safe, supervised housing and our growth has allowed Seed Sower to also focus on meeting the practical needs of our residents, such as transportation, recovery support, mental and behavioral healthcare coordination, 12-step and other recovery programming, life-skills development, and community reintegration.

Seed Sower offers a comprehensive recovery and residential plan that networks multiple community, state and federal resources to provide evidence-based support services to our adult, women residents. These supports are built around the four major dimensions of recovery support as identified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): Home, Health, Purpose and Community. Our work is grounded in creating a larger, holistic Recovery Ecosystem to sustain long-term recovery. More details are at <https://seedsowerinc.org/>