Sober Living Expansion

Social Services

Requester Information

Legislator Name: Dunnigan, James A.

Created Date: January 21st 2026 **Submitted Date:** January 21st 2026

Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

Valley Behavioral Health, "Valley", is seeking $1,000,000 in funding from Utah's Opioid Settlement fund to purchase an existing building with 15-20 rooms or units in Salt Lake County with the intention convert it to sober living / transitional housing. The use of these funds to support individuals seeking recovery and sobriety is aligned with Utah's values and fills a gap of sober living units in the County.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Joel Johnson

Organization: Valley Behavioral Health

Position: Lobbyist

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Personnel Services	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
In-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Out-of-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Category	One-time	Ongoing
Technology Purchases	2026: $0.00 2027: $0.00	$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2026: $0.00 2027: $1,000,000.00	$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2026: $0.00 2027: $0.00	$0.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	**$1,000,000.00**	**$0.00**

Funding Sources:

Opioid Settlement

Amount Requested:

2026 (One-time)	$0.00
2027 (One-time)	$1,000,000.00
2027 (Ongoing)	$0.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	**$1,000,000.00**	**$0.00**

Is this a multi-year project?

No

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

If partially funded, the project will be adjusted to fit the amount appropriated.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Health and Wellbeing

02828

Agency:

250 / Department of Health and Human Services

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

Private for Profit

Grant recipient

Yes

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient

Valley Behavioral Health

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

The primary beneficiaries are the individuals who are seeking recovery and sobriety but are unable to locate such housing placements in Salt Lake County due to lack of available stock. Additional beneficiaries include treatment providers who regularly have to discharge patients from rehab programs directly to homelessness or to a housing situation that jeopardizes the patient's sobriety. Finally, the public at large will benefit as this closes the loop on individuals exiting treatment programs. When individuals with substance use histories do not have a safe and stable environment to return to after treatment, their chances of relapsing are significantly higher. This negative outcome particularly effects individuals experiencing homelessness or housing instability. Placing these vulnerable individuals into a sober living situation greatly lowers their risk of relapse which has a net positive effect on EMS, police, hospitals and the general public.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

Provide stable, decent and sanitary housing to individuals seeking sobriety. This type of housing bridges the gap between inpatient and rehabilitation programs to independent living. The programming would be time limited (generally 6 months to slightly longer stays) and geared toward the individual's needs, goals and history. Participants will strengthen their recovery in a community of like-minded individuals who are also seeking to remain in sobriety.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

The first measurable metric will be purchasing a property and bringing physical units on-line. After such time, we will continue our ongoing partnership with the Salt Lake County Division of Behavioral Health Services to both receive referrals and report client outcomes. Valley Behavioral Health actively and currently partners with both Salt Lake County and the Utah Department of Health and Human Services in this capacity for many of our residential treatment programs. We would support either or both agencies setting additional SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound) goals as they customarily do with each of their grant recipients.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

Full Time Employees

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