Hope • Compassion • Respect • Honesty • Responsibility • Fairness

FIRST STATE ALLIANCE OF

FSARR

RECOVERY RESIDENCES



2024

CERTIFIED

ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter From The Executive Director	3
Who We Are	4
2024 Key Acomplishments	5
Key Challanges	7
Future Plans	8
Leading and Driving Our Mission	9

A MESSAGE FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of FSARR,

As Executive Director, I am honored to present the FSARR Annual Report for 2024. This report encapsulates a year of dedicated effort, significant achievements, and a renewed focus on our vision for the future of recovery housing in Delaware.

In 2024, we have made substantial progress in our mission to support individuals in recovery and advance the quality of recovery housing. We have secured NARR Accreditation, hosted a groundbreaking Recovery Housing Summit, expanded our team, certified 31 residences, shared our work at a national conference, deepened our community engagement, and laid the groundwork for future improvements through commissioned studies and resource development.

These accomplishments represent more than just milestones; they reflect our unwavering commitment to ensuring that every individual in recovery has access to a safe, supportive, and empowering living environment. We are driven by a vision of a recovery-focused Delaware, and we are dedicated to working collaboratively to make that vision a reality.
I extend my sincere gratitude to our board, staff, partners, and all who have contributed to our success. We look forward to continuing this vital work together.

Sincerely,
Andrew Thurn
Executive Director, FSARR

WHO WE ARE

Our organization is dedicated to ensuring access to high-quality recovery residences in Delaware. We align with the national standards set forth by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) and strive to foster a supportive and nurturing environment for individuals seeking recovery through education, public awareness, advocacy, and the implementation of these standards.

At the core of our work is a clear and resolute mission: to support individuals in their recovery by promoting access to NARR-aligned recovery residences across Delaware. We believe a safe, supportive, and recovery-focused living environment is essential for successful recovery journeys.

We envision a future where every individual in recovery has access to safe, supportive, and well-regulated recovery residences that adhere to national standards. To achieve this vision and create a recovery-focused Delaware, we collaborate with stakeholders, policymakers, and the community, prioritizing compassion, understanding, and accessible recovery support services.



2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FSARR
FIRST STATE ALLIANCE OF RECOVERY RESIDENCES

Secured NARR Accreditation

In 2024, FSARR achieved NARR Accreditation, a major milestone that reinforces our commitment to providing safe, ethical, and high-quality recovery housing. This accreditation sets national standards for recovery residences, ensuring FSARR meets rigorous requirements to support individuals on their recovery journeys.

NARR
NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR RECOVERY RESIDENCES

Expanded Our Capacity



Jackson Carter
Program Coordinator

A professional in long-term recovery, Jackson brings innovative programming expertise to support individuals on their recovery journeys.

Sarah Simpkins
Compliance Coordinator



With three years of experience in mental health and substance abuse and personal recovery experience, Sarah ensures secure housing standards are upheld.



Hosted Inaugural Recovery Housing Summit

On June 5, 2024, FSARR hosted Delaware's first Recovery Housing Summit at Bally's Dover Casino, bringing together 130+ attendees, including operators, mental health professionals, policymakers, and community stakeholders.

31 Certified Residences Statewide

FSARR certified 31 recovery residences (309 beds) in 2024, ensuring they meet national standards for safety and quality. This achievement directly supports our mission to connect individuals with supportive living environments that prioritize well-being and foster successful recovery journeys.



2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FSARR
FIRST STATE ALLIANCE OF RECOVERY RESIDENCES



Presented at Annual NARR Conference

At the 2024 NARR Best Practices Summit in Virginia, Executive Director Andrew Thurn joined an emerging affiliates panel to share FSARR's journey and impact. This prestigious event highlighted FSARR's growing influence in advancing quality recovery housing nationwide.

Developed Resources for Providers and Residents

FSARR created essential training materials for Delaware's recovery residence community, including:



- **Resources for residents:** Rights, grievance filing, finding certified houses.
- **Resources for providers:** Certification guides, policy documentation tips, incident reporting tools.

Engaged Delaware via Town Halls and Forums

FSARR hosted town halls and forums across Delaware in 2024 to share information and gather feedback on recovery housing initiatives.



Commissioned Professional Studies

FSARR conducted studies to inform key recommendations for improving Delaware's recovery housing system:

1. Targeted support for special populations (reentry, LGBTQ+, and veterans)
2. Expansion of NARR Level 1 recovery housing
3. Inclusion of NARR Level 4 recovery housing as part of the state funding structure
4. Enhanced support for recovery residence providers



FSARR
FIRST STATE ALLIANCE OF RECOVERY RESIDENCES

2024 KEY CHALLENGES

Delaware continues to face challenges related to unethical or poorly operated recovery organizations. These "bad actors" risk the health and safety of vulnerable populations by operating outside established standards. We remain steadfast in our advocacy for the enforcement of Delaware Code, which limits referrals, requires certification for access to state funding, and serves as a safeguard against exploitation. Strengthening accountability measures remains a top priority.





WHAT'S NEXT?

FSARR is dedicated to enhancing recovery housing in Delaware through the following initiatives:

Expand Support for Recovery Residence Providers

FSARR will strengthen provider support by:

- Offering training in relapse management, cultural sensitivity, and trauma-informed care.
- Promoting recreational and therapeutic activities.
- Improving communication strategies and boosting staff morale.
- Building partnerships to enhance healthcare access and referral networks.
- Refining resident screening processes and emergency preparedness.

Enhance Support for Specialized Populations

Focused efforts will address the unique needs of LGBTQ+ individuals, reentry populations, and veterans to ensure inclusive and tailored recovery housing solutions.

Advance NARR Standards

FSARR will advocate for expanding NARR Level 1 housing and integrating NARR Level 4 recovery housing into state funding structures.

Host 2nd Annual Recovery Housing Summit

On May 21, 2025, FSARR will host its second summit at the University of Delaware Clayton Hall, spotlighting best practices in recovery housing.

Ensure FSARR Sustainability

Securing grant funding and resources will remain a priority to ensure FSARR's long-term impact and operational stability.

LEADING OUR DRIVING MISSION

Board Recognition

FSARR extends heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed Board of Directors for their invaluable support and guidance in 2024. The organization's growth and success are a direct result of their commitment and leadership.

- Domenica Personti, President
- Michael Duffy, Vice President
- Erik Raser-Schramm, Treasurer
- Sue Harris, Secretary
- Julia Lawes, Member at Large

Their dedication to our mission and tireless efforts have been instrumental in advancing FSARR's impact.

Staff Recognition

FSARR's achievements in 2024 were made possible by the dedication and expertise of our staff. We extend our deepest appreciation to:

- Andrew Thurn, Executive Director
- Sarah Simpkins, Compliance Coordinator
- Jackson Carter, Program Coordinator

Their hard work and unwavering commitment continue to drive our mission forward.