



## *Fletcher Group Partner Success Story*

# PORTAL IN THE STORM

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## SURVEY, THEN SOLVE

*It's simple: find out what people need, then meet those needs in the most effective way possible. In this case, it's the needs of those fighting for recovery amidst two raging storms—an opioid epidemic and a pandemic. Their work is challenging, but may soon become easier thanks to a new "RH Portal" developed by the Fletcher Group Rural Center of Excellence (RCOE) and its research partner, KIPRC. The Portal will serve as an online clearing-house for all kinds of information critical to recovery and Recovery Housing.*



### THE NEED

*The project began in the fall of 2019 with an extensive survey of Recovery Housing needs. It concluded this fall with key insights regarding what's needed by Recovery Housing operators, state and local community leaders, corrections and justice department personnel, public health departments, housing professionals, and those who treat and service people with Substance User Disorders.*

### THE SOLUTION

*The survey results pointed to three distinct nation-wide needs. The first, according to respondents, is for accurate, reliable, real-time information regarding the availability of local Recovery Housing. The second is the need for quality training for both Recovery Housing operators and residents. And the third is the need of Recovery Housing operators for convenient, efficient record-keeping.*

## ABOUT KIPRC

The Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center is a partnership between the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Department for Public Health led by Dr. Terry Bunn who also serves as the Fletcher Group RCOE's Co-Investigator and Academic Partner.

Bunn's extensive experience with SUD and OUD victims includes 17 years as an injury epidemiologist and the publication of over 60 peer-reviewed articles on subjects ranging from traumatic injury to the prevention of drug intoxication.







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## DIRECTORY #1

A team of Subject Matter Experts is currently at work finalizing the “wireframe”—a kind of blueprint—for the RH Portal. Three distinct directories will be housed within the portal, the first being a Recovery Housing Locator where those looking for a residence can use a variety of filters to find the one best for them. Filters will include gender, certification level, house policies, treatment availability, payment options and costs, location, proximity to transportation, type of resident (LGBTQ-friendly, mental illness, etc.), treatment program philosophy (12-step, etc.), and the availability of wraparound supportive services.



## DIRECTORY #2

The portal’s second directory will provide a broad range of training for both residents and RH operators—courses like personal money management, SUD treatment, and self-driven recovery for residents and courses on policy, conflict resolution, and NARR certification for RH operators.

## DIRECTORY #3

The portal’s third directory will provide a fast, efficient, and user-friendly means for Recovery Housing operators to input, update, and archive daily operational data, including resident and house metrics together with whatever resident management tools may be used.

## WHAT IT'S LIKE WORKING WITH US

“From documenting the success of the Recovery Kentucky program he launched as governor to developing the new RH Portal, working with Fletcher Group Founder and Co-Investigator Ernie Fletcher has been highly rewarding,” says KIPRC Director Terry Bunn.

“We’re both passionate about improving recovery services so that people in recovery can find the help they need for themselves and their loved ones.”

