Senator McConnell Helps Secure \$3.3 Million for Fletcher Group to Help Combat Opioid Epidemic in Rural Kentucky

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) announced today the Fletcher Group will receive \$3,333,333 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program. The funding will support the Fletcher Group Rural Center of Excellence, which works to prevent and treat substance use disorders in rural communities across Kentucky.

"Driven by the isolation caused by the coronavirus pandemic and the flood of dangerous fentanyl coming across our borders, this past year the Commonwealth suffered one of the worst spikes in overdose deaths in the nation. However, through the work of organizations like the Fletcher Group, Kentuckians are coming together to combat this tragedy and assist the rural communities hit hardest," **said Senator McConnell.** "In the Senate, I am directing critical federal resources to address our substance abuse epidemic head-on. With the targeted prevention, treatment, and enforcement programs at organizations like the Fletcher Group, Kentucky's rural communities will be empowered to fight addiction and put an end to this crisis."

"We thank Senator McConnell for his long-standing and steadfast support for addiction services and recovery housing for those with substance use disorders. He has been unfailing in the fight to end this epidemic," **said Governor Ernie Fletcher, Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer for the Fletcher Group.** "Continued funding for the Rural Centers of Excellence will allow the Fletcher Group to further its outreach to rural communities in need of technical assistance to develop evidence-based recovery housing. Recovery housing has successfully demonstrated positive long-term outcomes for high-risk individuals dealing with addiction."