



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Danin Cather
Chief Marketing Officer
media@wvfirst.org

WVFF Announces Awardees of Momentum Initiative Grant

WEST VIRGINIA (December 23, 2025) - The West Virginia First Foundation (WVFF) is excited to announce the recipients of the [Momentum Initiative Grant](#) (MIG), nearly \$18 million to support high-impact initiatives addressing substance use disorder, prevention, recovery, and workforce and system capacity across West Virginia.

Approved by the WVFF Board of Directors earlier this month, MIG represents a landmark opioid abatement investment and reflects a revolutionary, nationally distinctive model for stewarding settlement dollars, one that combines objective evaluation and local expertise. Funding was awarded to 76 projects spanning statewide and regional target areas, reflecting both community-driven priorities and statewide need. A full list of awardees is provided below.

MIG investments will support a broad range of efforts, including foster care and non-parental caregiver initiatives, youth prevention, recovery housing, behavioral health and workforce development, and reentry and diversion programs. Collectively, these investments are designed to strengthen systems of care, expand access to services, and promote long-term, sustainable impact for West Virginians.

"We were intentional in building a structure that reflects both feedback and best practices," said Greg Duckworth, WVFF Board Chairman. "What emerged is a landmark opioid abatement model, distinct from any other foundation of its kind, made possible by volunteer Board Members and Expert Panelists dedicated to serving West Virginia."

To support consistency and objectivity, the WVFF review process followed a structured, multi-step approach. This first-of-its-kind model engaged local expert panelists, statewide leaders in their fields, neutral and objective data-driven specialists, and the full Board of Directors (both locally-elected and appointed). Independent, outcomes-based scoring was conducted and focused on program design, feasibility, and potential impact.

"The Momentum Initiative Grant reflects a new way of responding to the substance use crisis; one grounded in evidence, shaped by local expertise, and guided by accountability," said Jonathan Board, WVFF Executive Director. "We traveled the state, listened to those holding the line in their communities, and answered the call to honor the lives lost by putting these resources into the hands of those ready to create real, lasting impact for West Virginia."

For more information about the Momentum Initiative Grant, visit wvfirst.org/MIG.

About West Virginia First Foundation: The West Virginia First Foundation (WVFF) is a nonprofit organization established to address the opioid crisis and its lasting impact across the state. Created under the terms of the West Virginia First Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), WVFF was designed to receive and distribute opioid settlement funds. Guided by the principles outlined in the MOU, the Foundation operates as a private 501(c)(3) entity to support prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction efforts. Through strategic funding and community collaboration, WVFF is committed to creating sustainable solutions that improve the health and well-being of all West Virginians. For more information, visit wvfirst.org.

STATEWIDE AWARDEES				
REGION	GRANTEE	PROJECT	TARGET AREA	AMOUNT
Statewide	National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.	Foster RISE (Recruitment, Intervention, Support and Expansion)	Foster Care & Non-Parental Caregivers	\$954,469.45
Statewide	Pressley Ridge	Pressley Ridge Treatment Kinship Care Statewide Services	Foster Care & Non-Parental Caregivers	\$974,751.00
Statewide	West Virginia CASA Association, Inc.	Continuum of Care for Children & Families Impacted by the Opioid Crisis	Foster Care & Non-Parental Caregivers	\$975,000.00
Statewide	West Virginia Wesleyan College	WVWC & WV CASA Capacity Building Initiative	Foster Care & Non-Parental Caregivers	\$947,916.00

REGIONAL AWARDEES				
REGION	GRANTEE	PROJECT	TARGET AREA	AMOUNT
6	Active Southern West Virginia Inc.	Active Southern West Virginia	Youth Prevention	\$124,750.00
4	Alliance for Hope Appalachia, Inc.	Camp HOPE America-WV, Pathways to Hope	Youth Prevention	\$105,705.00
2	Berkeley County Commission	Driving Youth Prevention: Expanding Access and Engagement in Berkeley Co.	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00

5	Boone Memorial Health	Growing Futures @ Market on Main	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
6	Brian's Safehouse, Inc.	Growing Our Residence to Grow Our Residents	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00
2	Burlington United Methodist Family Services	Sarah's House Child Advocacy Center	Youth Prevention	\$46,940.00
2	CASA of the Eastern Panhandle, Inc.	Fostering Futures Forward	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
6	ChildLaw Services, Inc.	Preventative Legal Support through EAGLES Program for WV Youth - Mercer and McDowell	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
4	City of Clarksburg	Continuation of Outreach Liaison Program	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$76,191.56
6	Community Connections, Inc.	Camp Mariposa	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
6	Community Connections, Inc.	Campus Behavioral Health Pathways Program	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
2	Community Education Group, Inc.	CEG Community Health and Mobilization Prevention Service (CHAMPS) Project	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
2	Family Resource Network of the Panhandle, Inc.	Behavioral Health Workforce Pipeline	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
5	Festiv-ALL Charleston, WV	Arts for Expression, Connection, and Healing	Youth Prevention	\$85,000.00
1	Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.	The Recovery First Reentry Initiative Program	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00

2	Hampshire County Commission dba South Branch Valley Day Report Center	South Branch Valley Day Report Center Juvenile Services - Hampshire County	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00
4	Harrison County CASA Program, Inc.	Harrison County CASA - Advocacy and Youth Prevention	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
4	Harrison County Child Abuse Task Force, Inc., dba Hero's Haven Child Advocacy Center	Hero's Haven Trauma-Focused CBT Access Project	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$94,000.00
5	HealthPath Outreach, Inc.	Behavioral Workforce Training: Advanced Clinical Skills for Dual-Diagnosis Populations	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$221,000.00
5	Hero House, Inc.	Hero House	Recovery Housing	\$185,000.00
1	HoH-Share, Inc.	The Mother Jones Center for Resilient Community Youth Prevention Program	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
3	Hope House Ministries, Inc.	Hope House Ministries Inc.	Recovery Housing	\$224,000.00
5	Hope in the Hills, Inc.	The ReStage Appalachia: Returning Citizens Initiative	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00
4	Libera, Inc.	Libera Model Prevention Groups and Therapy for Middle School Youth	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
5	Lily's Place, Inc.	Mentorship and Secondary Prevention to Support Development for At-Risk Youth	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
5	Marshall University Research Corporation	Prevention Through Community Outreach and Youth Empowerment	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00

5	Marshall University Research Corporation	Marshall University Behavioral Health Workforce and Development Program	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
6	McDowell County Commission on Aging, Inc.	Mountain Strong Youth Initiative	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
5	Mission West Virginia, Inc.	Mission West Virginia: The Bridge Program	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
4	Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center, Inc.	Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center Drug Endangered Children's Project 2026	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
2	Morgan County Partnership, Inc.	Project HOPE (Healthy Opportunities through Prevention Education)	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
4	Morgantown Sober Living, Inc. dba WVSL Solutions	Second Chance Reentry Workforce Initiative	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00
6	Mountains of Hope Outreach	Pathways to Prevention: Guiding young people toward safe choices and strong communities	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
4	Mylan Park Foundation, Inc.	Mylan Park Foundation's Discovery Days	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
4	National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.	NYAP Strengthening Families Program	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
6	New River Health Association, Inc.	Bridging the Gaps Initiative	Youth Prevention	\$90,250.00
1	Northwood Health Systems, Inc.	Northwood Health Systems - Workforce For Wellness (W4W)	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$216,065.00
5	Pollen8, Inc.	Pollen8 Multi-Purpose Housing Unit	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00

5	Prestera Health Services	Community Afterschool SUD Prevention Program	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
4	Preston County Health Department	Preston County Health Department	Youth Prevention	\$122,650.00
4	Preston County Schools	Preston County Schools - Rowlesburg Opportunity Center	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
5	Recovery Group of Southern West Virginia, Inc.	Tender Apartments: Expansion for Level 2 Recovery Housing in Logan County	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00
6	Recovery Point of Huntington, Inc.	Recovery Point Phase III Bluefield	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00
6	Recovery Point of Huntington, Inc.	Recovery Point Reentry Initiative	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00
6	Seed Sower, Inc. dba Seed Sower Behavioral Health	Expanding Behavioral Health Access and Workforce Capacity for Substance Use Disorder Treatment in Southern West Virginia	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
2	Semper Liberi Incorporated	Mountaineer Recovery Village: Phase 2 Development	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00
2	Semper Liberi Incorporated	Justice-Impacted Members Initiative (JIMI) Proposal	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00
2	Semper Liberi Incorporated	RISE-XP Recovery Integrated Supportive Employment - Expansion	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00

6	Southern Highlands Community Mental Health Center, Inc.	Southern Highlands WV First Reentry Project	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00
5	Step By Step, Inc.	Step By Step Youth WVFF Youth Drug Youth Prevention Grant	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
3	TEAM for West Virginia Children, Inc.	TEAM for West Virginia Children, Inc.	Youth Prevention	\$58,329.00
3	The Bomar Club, Inc.	On the Road to Success: Expanded Wraparound and Reentry Services	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$113,554.00
4	The Change Initiative	The Change Initiative	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00
6	The Church United in WV, dba The SafeHaven Campaign	The Villages of SafeHaven: A community for women & children in crisis	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00
2	The Martinsburg Initiative, Inc.	The Martinsburg Initiative: Youth Mentoring Program	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
5	The REACH Initiative, Inc.	Reentry Navigator Program	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$250,000.00
4	Tucker Day Report	Tucker Day Report	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$181,413.92
1	West Liberty University	Hilltopper Pathways: Out-of-School Reentry & Support Program	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$249,397.00

4	West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness	Juvenile Justice Reentry & Service Navigation Program	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$159,833.53
5	West Virginia Drug Intervention Institute	Immersive & Interactive Substance Use Prevention Education for Youth and Families: A Replicable Project for Communities, Schools, and Counties	Youth Prevention	\$124,687.50
5	West Virginia Health Right, Inc.	WV Health Right - Behavioral Health Workforce Capacity Development	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
5	West Virginia Schools of Diversion and Transition/Jobs & Hope WV	Appalachian Reentry Initiative	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$249,212.00
4	West Virginia Wesleyan College	WVWC Certificate in Addiction Counseling Workforce Development Scholarship	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$246,125.00
4	West Virginia Women Work, Inc.	Step Up for Recovery Workforce Project	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$249,500.00
3	Westbrook Health Services, Inc.	Westbrook Health Services Thrive Together Project	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00
3	Westbrook Health Services, Inc.	Westbrook Health Services Workforce Development Project	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
5	WomenCare, Inc. dba FamilyCare Health Centers	Nurturing Recovery, Strengthening Families: Empowering Mothers, Infants, and Caregivers Impacted by Substance Use Disorder	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00
2	WVU Medical Corporation dba University Health Associates	WVU Medical Corporation dba University Health Associates	Behavioral Health & Workforce Development	\$250,000.00

1	Young Women's Christian Association of Wheeling WV	YWCA Wheeling - Youth Prevention	Youth Prevention	\$124,744.00
1	Young Women's Christian Association of Wheeling WV	YWCA Wheeling - Cathy's Haven	Recovery Housing	\$380,000.00
1	Young Women's Christian Association of Wheeling WV	YWCA Wheeling - Women Inspired in New Directions Program	Day Report Centers & Reentry Programs	\$186,450.00
1	Youth Services System, Inc.	Youth Services System, Inc. Afterschool Youth Prevention Program	Youth Prevention	\$125,000.00

TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED: \$17,801,933.96