

Organization: Men's Second Chance Living / MSCL House

Project Title: 2019 Grant Report to Wood River Women's Foundation

Grant Amount: \$20,000

Objectives and Outcomes

MSCL's primary objective is to support men in their journey to sobriety by providing a safe, substance-free living environment and recovery-related activities through strategic partnerships with local organizations. MSCL House—the first sober home in the Wood River Valley—opened in November 2018. We have served 14 individuals to date, with a bed night count of 1,500 (80% occupancy rate, in line with our estimates). In our first year, we:

- Hired a house manager (John Inman) to oversee day-to-day operations and provide support for residents
- Completed home renovations, including new floors, new paint, and the addition of a second bathroom and a washer/dryer area
- Earned accreditation from BPA Health, the only entity in Idaho that conducts audits for sober homes
- Received approval for Idaho Department of Corrections funding for rental assistance
- Built relationships with the community by hosting public events and reaching out to neighbors
- Worked with local providers and businesses (dentists, nutritionists, gyms, thrift stores, etc.) to secure discounts and/or free services for residents
- Established a Compassion Fund to provide assistance to residents pursuing an education or coping with traumatic events
- Established a Wellness Fund to provide funding for nutrition and cooking classes, exercise programs, and wellness activities

Impact

We know we are making a difference in our residents' lives, the lives of their family members, and the health of our community as a whole. We hear from employers that MSCL House residents are some of the hardest working and most reliable employees in the valley, with many holding down two jobs at once. (Note: All residents have found full-time employment within two weeks of entering MSCL House.) Their family members tell us that residents are successfully restoring family relationships, with a couple of our residents having returned home to their families. Our residents remain sober and are learning to build purposeful lives centered on healthy activities, meeting their daily house and fiscal responsibilities, furthering their education, contributing to the community through their work and volunteerism, and forging strong bonds of support and caring with their fellow residents. It's remarkable to witness their personal growth and achievements.

Testimonials

"Thanks to John, I have my two most reliable employees from MSCL House."

– Local restaurant owner

"I know and appreciate it more than I can explain. All I can do is show you by doing right."

– MSCL House Resident

Budget

Expenses	Amount requested from WRWF	Actual Expenditures
6 months operating expenses	\$10,000	\$34,418
Home renovations	\$10,000	\$15,864
TOTAL	\$20,000	\$50,282



