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## Opioid Settlement Funds

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*Please complete the application below in its entirety. You may attach additional pages as needed. Applications will be accepted for up to \$100,000.00 for direct services and \$50,000.00 for indirect service projects. Funds are limited due to the amount of settlement received and projects may not receive full request. A 20% match of funds will be required for all projects; however, a waiver of match may be requested and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Waiver Request forms are available upon request. Funding decisions are at the sole discretion of the City and the City reserves the right to deny any request for funds and/or waivers of match for any reason.*

*Once submitted, this application and any supporting documents are considered a public record and will be posted on the City's website and made available to the public and the media upon request.*

- CERTIFY THAT YOU HAVE REVIEWED EXHIBIT A, SCHEDULE A - CORE STRATEGIES and SCHEDULE B APPROVED USES**
- CERTIFY THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THAT A REPRESENTATIVE(S) OF THE CITY MAY MAKE VISITS DURING THE APPLICATION PROCESS AND DURING THE GRANT PERIOD FOR MONITORING PURPOSES *WITHOUT* PRIOR NOTICE.**

### **Section One: Contact Information**

**Name of Organization and Contact Persons Name for application\***

Marshall University Research Corporation, Dr. Jerry Dooley Primary Investigator

**Address\***

One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755-8100

**Website, if applicable:**

[www.marshall.edu/murc](http://www.marshall.edu/murc)

**Phone Number\***

[REDACTED]

**Email address\***

[REDACTED]

**FEIN\***

[REDACTED]

**UEI\***

[REDACTED]

Registration in SAM.gov  Yes  No

*\*If yes, please list expiration date* 06/06/2026

Are you in good standing  Yes  No

## **Section Two: Project Summary**

### **Executive summary of the proposal\***

Please include details regarding the design and strategy of your proposal.

The Marshall University Graduate Counseling Department, in partnership with the Marshall University Research Corporation (MURC) and Compassion Central West Virginia, proposes the implementation of a recovery-focused vocational development initiative designed to strengthen recovery capital, increase employment readiness, and reduce relapse risk among adults living in recovery housing in Fairmont, West Virginia. This project directly aligns with the City of Fairmont's Opioid Settlement priorities by supporting individuals in recovery through evidence-informed programming that addresses one of the most persistent drivers of relapse and instability: lack of meaningful and sustainable employment.

**Lead Organization and Partners.** Marshall University Graduate Counseling Department (Lead Organization). The mission of the Marshall University Graduate Counseling Department is to prepare aspiring counselors to serve their schools and communities as ethical, competent, and culturally responsive practitioners. Counselor education at Marshall University dates back to approximately 1961 and has maintained continuous accreditation by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) since 1985. The department's current accreditation cycle runs through 2025, with reaffirmation anticipated in Fall 2025.

Over the past two decades, the department has been a leader in innovative counselor education delivery, including the development of a fully remote CACREP-accredited degree option in 2017. This infrastructure allowed uninterrupted instruction and service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic and expanded access to counseling education across West Virginia and beyond. In 2022, enrollment growth led to formal recognition as a department, and in 2023 the department transitioned fully away from on-ground delivery to focus on high-quality digital instruction while maintaining strong community engagement throughout West Virginia. Though nationally and internationally positioned, the department remains deeply committed to addressing workforce, behavioral health, and recovery needs within West Virginia communities.

**Marshall University Research Corporation (MURC).** MURC is a nonprofit corporation chartered under the laws of the State of West Virginia that supports Marshall University's research enterprise through grant development, financial administration, compliance, and reporting. MURC will provide fiscal oversight, procurement support, and grant compliance services to ensure full alignment with City of Fairmont opioid settlement requirements.

**Compassion Central West Virginia (Community Implementation Partner).** Compassion Central West Virginia is a 501(c)(3) Recovery Community Organization (RCO) based in Fairmont. The organization operates male and female recovery residences and provides peer-driven, faith-informed recovery support services to individuals and families affected by substance use disorder (SUD). Compassion Central is led by Rev. George Boyle, founder and community pastor, and Cathy Boyle, Executive Director and registered nurse, and is governed by an established Board of Directors. Compassion Central's recovery homes will serve as the primary implementation sites for this pilot project. While CCWV is a faith-informed recovery support, it does not require adherence to faith but offers it as part of Recovery Capital.

**Project Leadership.** The project will be led by Dr. Jerry L. Dooley, Assistant Professor of Counseling at Marshall University and Clinical Placement Coordinator for the Graduate Counseling Department. Dr. Dooley holds permanent school counseling certification from the West Virginia Department of Education and provisional licensure from the West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling. He will serve as Project Director, interventionist, and Principal Investigator under Marshall University’s Institutional Review Board.

**Community Need.** Fairmont and Marion County continue to experience the long-term impacts of the opioid crisis, including high rates of overdose, relapse, incarceration, homelessness, and unemployment. While detoxification, treatment, and judicial interventions exist, there remains a critical gap in long-term recovery supports, particularly those addressing vocational instability and low vocational self-esteem. Individuals with exiting treatment or incarceration frequently return to high-risk environments without structured recovery housing, peer coaching, or pathways to stable employment. This instability increases the likelihood of relapse, overdose, and re-entry into emergency and criminal justice systems. Research consistently identifies recovery capital, the internal and external resources that support sustained recovery, as a key predictor of long-term recovery success. One foundational component of recovery capital is community recovery capital, which includes access to meaningful employment, supportive social networks, and recovery-friendly workplaces. Without this support, recovery outcomes remain fragile.

### **Project Purpose and Strategy**

The purpose of this project is to increase recovery stability and reduce opioid-related harm in Fairmont by integrating vocational development into the recovery process for residents of sober living homes. The project uses a strength-based, recovery-informed approach that combines individualized aptitude assessment, vocational skill development, and employer engagement.

The project’s strategy is grounded in evidence-informed principles:

- Identification of natural aptitudes improves vocational confidence and job persistence.
- Vocational self-esteem is strongly associated with emotional resilience and sustained employment.
- Recovery capital predicts long-term recovery outcomes more accurately than clinical variables alone.

**Theory of Change.** If individuals in recovery develop a clear understanding of their strengths and career pathways, and if they receive structured vocational training, employer connections, and recovery-informed coaching, then vocational self-worth and recovery capital will increase, leading to improved employment readiness, stronger community integration, and reduced relapse risk.

**Program Design and Activities.** Participants will engage in a structured vocational development program centered on the YouScience® Aptitude & Career Discovery curriculum, complemented by workshops, individualized coaching, and employer partnerships.

**Core activities include:**

- Completion and interpretation of YouScience aptitude and career assessments
- Weekly vocational skill-building workshops (résumé development, interview skills, workplace communication, time management)
- Individual coaching and case management to address barriers such as transportation, anxiety, and criminal history
- Employer engagement activities, including mock interviews, job shadowing, and mentorship
- Integration of peer recovery coaching to support engagement and retention

**Assessment Tools and Measures.** Validated assessment tools of the Vocational Self-Esteem Scale (VSES) and Assessment of Recovery Capital (ARC) will be administered pre- and post-intervention. The Multidimensional Inventory of Recovery Capital (MIRC) will be used at baseline, post-intervention, and follow-up to assess sustained recovery outcomes.

**Target Population.** The target population includes adults residing in Compassion Central West Virginia’s male and female recovery residences who are actively engaged in recovery from SUD. Participants typically experience disrupted employment histories, limited vocational confidence, and elevated relapse risk. Participation is voluntary and integrated into residents’ broader recovery plans.

**Implementation Timeline.** The project will be implemented over approximately 9-11 months, with phased planning, delivery, evaluation, and dissemination of findings:

- **Months 1–2:** Program planning, partnership development, equipment acquisition, staff training, and execution of Memoranda of Understanding with employers and workforce partners.
- **Months 3–5:** Participant orientation, baseline assessments, YouScience aptitude assessments, and initial coaching.
- **Months 6–7:** Weekly vocational workshops, employer engagement, ongoing coaching, and recovery capital planning.
- **Months 8–9:** Post-assessments, data analysis, employment placement support, and transition planning.
- **Months 10-11:** Research reports, findings, and dissemination.

**Staffing and Capacity.** The project will be staffed by the Project Director and assisted by the CCWV Founder and Community Pastor.

**Funding Request and Use.** The City of Fairmont is requested to invest \$81,167 in Opioid Settlement funds to support curriculum licensing and training, equipment and technology, peer project director coaching, staffing, administrative oversight, and participant employment supplies.

***Which of the following Core Strategies and Approved Uses will be met?***

Please check all that apply:

**Schedule A Core Strategies \***

- Naloxone or other FDA -Approved Drug to reverse opioid overdoses.
- Medication Assisted Treatment ("MAT") Distribution and other opioid related treatment Pregnant & postpartum women.
- Expanding treatment for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Expansion of warm hand-off programs and recovery services
- ✓ **Treatment of incarcerated population**
- Prevention Programs
- Evidence based data collection and research analyzing the effectiveness of the abatement strategies Law Enforcement
- ✓ **Research**

**Schedule B Approved Uses\***

- Treat opioid use disorder (OUD)
- ✓ **Support people in treatment and recovery.**
- Other

## Provide specific information on how your project will meet the Core Strategies and Approved Uses. \*

3.5 page maximum

### How This Project Will Meet Core Strategies and Approved Uses By Supporting People in Recovery

Specifically, this project is designed to strengthen recovery outcomes by integrating vocational development, community engagement, and employer partnerships into the recovery process. Using the YouScience career exploration curriculum, residents of the identified sober living homes will complete structured assessments that identify individual aptitudes, interests, and natural talents. These insights will guide participants toward meaningful career paths, helping them recognize their own value and potential in the workforce.

Through this process, participants develop greater vocational self-esteem—a vital element of sustained recovery—by discovering that they possess unique strengths and marketable skills. As participants gain clarity about their career goals, they also build confidence, purpose, and hope for the future.

Beyond individual growth, this project actively builds Recovery Capital, the collection of internal and external resources that support long-term recovery, in four key areas:

1. **Personal Recovery Capital.** YouScience fosters self-understanding and self-efficacy, equipping participants with the mindset and motivation to pursue stable, meaningful employment as part of their recovery journey.
2. **Social Recovery Capital.** By creating structured opportunities for connection with local employers, mentors, and community partners, the program helps participants establish supportive social networks that encourage accountability and belonging.
3. **Human Recovery Capital.** Participants gain practical career readiness skills—such as résumé development, interview preparation, and professional communication—that increase employability and open access to higher-quality job opportunities.
4. **Community Recovery Capital.** The program engages local employers and organizations in recovery-friendly initiatives, helping to reduce stigma, increase understanding, and strengthen community investment in recovery success.

Collectively, these elements transform the vocational development process into a recovery-sustaining intervention. Participants not only secure employment but also develop a renewed sense of identity, purpose, and contribution to their community. The outcome is a more confident, employable, and socially connected individual with key predictors of lasting recovery and reduced relapse risk.

## **How This Project Will Support People in Recovery**

This project is designed to strengthen recovery outcomes by integrating vocational development, community engagement, and employer partnerships into the recovery process. Using the YouScience career exploration curriculum, residents of the sober living home will complete structured assessments that identify individual aptitudes, interests, and natural talents. These insights will guide participants toward meaningful career paths, helping them recognize their own value and potential in the workforce.

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## Key anticipated outcomes\*

### Expected Outcomes and Measures

This project aims to demonstrate measurable improvements in both vocational self-esteem and overall recovery capital among residents participating in the YouScience vocational development program. Outcomes will be assessed using two validated instruments: the Vocational Self-Esteem Scale (VSES) and the Assessment of Recovery Capital (ARC) scale.

#### *Primary Outcomes:*

- **Increase in Vocational Self-Esteem:** Participants are expected to report significant gains in vocational self-esteem as measured by the VSES, reflecting increased confidence, purpose, and belief in their ability to contribute meaningfully through employment.
- **Growth in Recovery Capital:** Participants will demonstrate growth in total ARC scores, indicating enhanced personal, social, human, and community capital that supports long-term recovery stability.

#### *Secondary Outcomes:*

- **Employment Readiness and Engagement:** Participants will show improved job readiness (e.g., résumé completion, interview skills, goal setting) and greater engagement with local employers and community networks.
- **Sustained Recovery Indicators:** Participants with increased vocational self-esteem and recovery capital are expected to show improved retention in sober living programs, greater community participation, and reduced relapse risk. Sustained recovery will be assessed using the Multidimensional Inventory of Recovery Capital (MIRC), administered at baseline, immediately following the vocational self-esteem intervention, and again at a three-month follow-up. The MIRC provides a comprehensive measure of personal, social, and community recovery resources that accumulate over time and support long-term sobriety. By comparing changes in MIRC scores across these time points, the study will evaluate whether increases in vocational self-esteem are associated with broader growth in recovery capital, including improvements in coping skills, emotional stability, social support, role functioning, and community engagement. This repeated-measures approach enables the project to identify sustained recovery indicators and demonstrate how vocational self-esteem interventions contribute to ongoing, multidimensional recovery. Additional assessments, such as Self-Report of SUD screening, self-reporting of job satisfaction, and relapse events will be recorded.

**Individuals or communities served\***

The community served includes adults residing in Compassion Central West Virginia’s male and female recovery residences who are actively engaged in recovery from alcohol and SUD. Participants typically experience disrupted employment histories, limited vocational confidence, and elevated relapse risk. Participation is voluntary and integrated into residents’ broader recovery plans.

**Describe your organization’s connection to the City of Fairmont\***

Marshall University and the Marshall University Research Corporation (MURC) are deeply connected to the City of Fairmont through longstanding regional engagement, shared public health priorities, and collaborative efforts to address substance use disorder and recovery across North Central West Virginia. As a public research university serving the state, Marshall University has a demonstrated commitment to advancing community-based solutions that respond to the opioid crisis affecting municipalities throughout the region, including Marion County and the City of Fairmont.

Through MURC, Marshall University extends its research, evaluation, and programmatic capacity beyond campus boundaries, supporting applied research, data-driven program development, and community-engaged initiatives that strengthen local recovery infrastructure. MURC has extensive experience administering externally funded projects, ensuring fiscal accountability, regulatory compliance, and outcome evaluation—key components for responsible stewardship of opioid settlement funds.

The proposed project will be implemented in close collaboration with Compassion Central West Virginia Recovery Organization, a community-based partner with established presence and trust in the City of Fairmont and surrounding areas. Compassion Central brings direct recovery support experience, community outreach capacity, and lived-knowledge-informed programming that complements Marshall University’s research and evaluation strengths. This collaboration ensures that the project is both evidence-informed and grounded in the real-world needs of individuals and families impacted by opioid use disorder, strengthening the project’s relevance, accessibility, and community impact.

Marshall University’s faculty and research staff routinely collaborate with local governments, healthcare providers, behavioral health agencies, and nonprofit organizations serving Fairmont and surrounding communities. These partnerships have focused on prevention, treatment access, workforce development, and recovery support services, aligning university expertise with municipal needs. The proposed recovery project builds upon this established regional relationship, positioning Marshall University and MURC as trusted partners to support the City of Fairmont in implementing evidence-informed, sustainable recovery initiatives that directly benefit residents impacted by opioid use disorder.

**Amount of funding requested\***

**\$81,167** as shown in the Sponsor Request of the Grant Budget and Budget Narrative

**Amount of matching funds raised or committed by your organization \***

\$17,781 as detailed in the section below and broken down in the project’s Budget Narrative.

**Source of matching funds raised or committed by your organization \***

All matching funds will come in the form of in-kind services by Marshall University’s College of Education and Professional Development (PI’s travel expenses), YouScience rate deduction on the project’s intervention plan, Compassion Central West Virginia Recovery Organization for light construction and remodeling, time of the Founder and Community Pastor in training, implementation, and communication with community stakeholders as well as site rental space and internet services, and local organizations for donated women’s clothing and work material.

**Project timeline \***

Include how long it will take you to implement and complete the project if awarded funding. *The project period is 12- months. 3.5 page maximum*

**Implementation Timeline**

The above project implementation will take place over a 9-11 month timeline.

**Months 1–2 – Immediately Following Grant Award Approval**

- Specific planning with YouScience to implement the program.
- Strategic development with recovery house residents in preparation for the project.
- Creating space in the two recovery houses and purchasing the needed computer systems identified in Project Budget.
- Identifying, developing, and establishing Memoranda of Understanding with local businesses and employers
- Identifying and developing partnerships with other community stakeholders, as well as developing any necessary Memoranda of Understanding, with external stakeholders such as:
  - The West Virginia Manufacturing Association
  - Marion County, WV Chamber of Commerce
  - Marion County, WV Commission
  - West Virginia Department of Rehabilitation Services
  - Workforce West Virginia
  - Pierpont Community and Technical College
  - Marshall University’s College of Education and Professional Development administrative staff for project duties and timeline
- Identifying, securing, and training any and all volunteers.

**Months 3-5**

- Participant engagement and orientation
- Pre-Assessment Measures Taken: Baseline Assessment of Recovery Capital (ARC) and Vocational Self-Esteem Scale (VSES)
- YouScience aptitude assessment completion
- Initial coaching sessions

**Months 6-7**

- Weekly career development workshops
- Employer meetings and mentorship engagement
- Continued coaching and barrier reduction
- Ongoing ARC-informed recovery capital planning

**Months 8-9 (10-11)**

- Post-Assessments Taken: ARC and VSES as done with the pre-assessment
- Data analysis and outcome reporting
- Employment or training placement support
- Participant transition planning

**Months 10-11**

- Assessment data analysis review
- Findings organized and disseminated to all stakeholders

## **Section Three: Proposal Details**

### **Describe the problem or need that your project seeks to address \***

3.5 page maximum

#### **Rationale for the Approach**

People in addiction often struggle with low self-efficacy, employment gaps, and stigma. These challenges reduce recovery capital and increase relapse risk. The project's strategy directly addresses these gaps using the following evidence-informed principles:

- YouScience increases self-awareness and vocational readiness by identifying natural aptitudes that often go unrecognized.
- Vocational Self-Esteem is strongly associated with job persistence, motivation, and emotional resilience.
- Recovery Capital, as measured by the ARC, predicts long-term recovery success more accurately than clinical variables alone.

By combining these tools, the program increases both *internal capital* (confidence, skills, identity) and *external capital* (employer networks, community support, economic stability).

#### **Theory of Change**

If individuals in recovery develop a clear understanding of their strengths and career pathways, and if they receive structured vocational training, employer connections, and supportive coaching, then they will experience increased vocational self-worth and improved recovery capital, leading to enhanced employment readiness, stronger community integration, and reduced relapse risk.

#### **Implementation Strategy**

1. **Strengths-Based, Recovery-Informed Career Development.** The project uses an individualized and group-based approach:
  - YouScience results guide each participant's vocational pathway.
  - Staff help participants link their natural strengths to real, local opportunities.
  - Workshops build not only skills but also identity, routine, and confidence which are critical components of early recovery.
2. **Community Partnership Expansion.** Strong relationships with Fairmont-area businesses, workforce agencies, treatment providers, and mentors create a network of support that strengthens community recovery capital. Employer partners receive guidance on how to support individuals in early recovery, promoting sustainable second-chance employment.
3. **Risk Management.** Key risks and mitigation strategies include:
  - Attendance challenges: Supported through case-manager follow-ups and integration with recovery support plans.
  - Relapse risk: Staff coordinate with peer recovery coaches and clinical providers to ensure timely intervention.
  - Workforce anxiety or stigma: Participants receive coaching and practice sessions before employer interactions.

**Total proposed budget\***

\*\*Include the following:



*A detailed proposed budget*

MURC Budget Form (Rev. 12.25)					Cumulative Total
Proposal Number:	C26-0254				
Principal Investigator:	Jerry Dooley				
Project Title:	Fairmont Opioid Settlement Fund				
Project Dates:	4/1/2026 - 3/31/2027				
	Base	Effort	Year 1 Sponsor Request	MATCH	
<b>PERSONNEL</b>					
<b>Salaries (Name / Project Role)</b>					
PI - Jerry Dooley	\$57,577	20%	\$11,515		
Project Finance Coordinator	\$40,000	5%	\$2,000	\$	
	\$		\$	\$	
<b>Total Salaries</b>			<b>\$13,515</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$13,515</b>
<b>Fringe</b>					
	Rate				
PI Jerry Dooley	32.09%		\$3,695	\$	
Project Finance Coordinator	28.79%		\$576	\$	
	0.00%		\$	\$	
<b>Total Fringe</b>			<b>\$4,271</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$4,271</b>
<b>Total Personnel Costs</b>			<b>\$17,786</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$17,786</b>
<b>TRAVEL</b>					
PI Travel				\$500	
<b>Total Travel</b>			<b>\$</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>TUITION</b>					
,					
<b>Total Tuition</b>				\$	
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>					
				\$	
<b>Total Equipment</b>			<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>SUPPLIES</b>					
Technology and Equipment Costs			\$4,000		
Resident Supplies for the Workforce Classroom(s) Construction Material			\$1,500	\$1,000	
Learning Space (Classroom) Furniture for Both Houses			\$2,000		
			\$1,500		
<b>Total Supplies</b>			<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>CONTRACTUAL</b>					
Freedom House Rent (men's residence)				\$2,322	
Internet Usage (Both Houses)				\$225	
Construction Labor for Creating Classroom Space (Both Houses)				\$500	

House of Hope Rent (women's residence)		\$1,917	
<b>Total Contractual</b>		\$	\$4,964
<b>OTHER</b>			
YouScience 1 - Year License	\$37,632		\$768
In-Kind Service by Compassion Central Director			\$6,880
	\$37,632		\$7,648
<b>Total Other Costs</b>			
<b>TOTAL DIRECT COSTS</b>	\$64,418		\$14,112
MTDC Base	\$64,418		\$14,112
<b>INDIRECTS (FACILITIES &amp; ADMINISTRATIVE)</b>			
Marshall F & A 26.00%	\$16,749		\$3,669
Consortium F & A			
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>	<b>\$81,167</b>		<b>\$17,781</b>
			\$45,280
			\$78,530
			\$78,530
			\$20,418
			\$98,948

Federally Negotiated Fringe Rates FY26	
Full-Time MU	32.09%
Part-Time MU	11.76%
Full-Time MURC	28.79%
Part-Time MURC	7.12%

Sponsor Request Breakdown	
Direct Cost:	\$81,167
Indirect:	\$17,781
Total Sponsor Request	\$98,948

❖ *Proposed budget narrative\**

Describe how you will use the requested funding to complete the proposed project.

3.5 page maximum

**Project Scope and Funding Allocation**

The following budget narrative outlines the costs necessary to implement and sustain the proposed project for 1 year. The total direct project cost is \$81,167 which includes personnel, fringe benefits, equipment, classroom furnishings, resident clothing and supplies, and other programmatic expenses essential for successful program delivery. In addition, the project leverages a total of \$17,781 in matching in-kind contributions, including dedicated space, internet service, volunteer labor, travel, and donated clothing. These in-kind resources enhance program capacity, reduce overall costs, and ensure sustainability of program activities beyond the funded period. Detailed explanations of each budget category follow.

## **Direct Project Cost**

### **\$37,632 – Curriculum and Strategic Partnership with YouScience**

These funds will be used to secure a one-year license with YouScience Brightpath, an educational platform designed for school districts and built on 50+ years of aptitude research to prepare students, empower educators, and inform administrators. The specific curriculum that we will be in partnership with will focus on recovery house resident's skills, aptitude development, and community investment with respect to adult education. In addition to the one-year license for the educational platform, YouScience will add their Industry Recognized Certifications | Site License - Higher Education – Strategic option and provide Professional Development training to PI and staff.

### **\$4000 – Technology and Equipment and Costs**

Grant funds in the amount of \$4,000 are requested to support the purchase of essential equipment required for successful program implementation. These funds will be used to acquire at least eight computer systems and two printers to support participant educational, vocational, and program-related activities. This equipment will be distributed between two recovery houses to ensure equitable access across program sites. In addition, one laptop will be purchased to support project administration, data collection, and data analysis at an estimated cost of \$800–\$1,000. All equipment is necessary for program delivery, monitoring, and evaluation and will be used exclusively for project-related purposes.

### **\$2000 – Construction / Remodeling Supplies**

Funds in the amount of \$2,000 are requested to support minor construction and remodeling needs across both project houses to ensure the spaces are safe, functional, and appropriate for program activities. These costs will cover small-scale improvements such as repairs, painting, basic carpentry, fixture replacement, and accessibility or safety enhancements that are necessary to maintain compliance with local codes and to provide a welcoming, dignified environment for residents and program participants.

The proposed improvements are not major renovations but targeted updates that extend the usability and longevity of the existing facilities while minimizing long-term maintenance costs. Enhancements will directly support program implementation by ensuring that living and common areas are suitable for workforce readiness activities, counseling support, and daily resident use.

By distributing these funds across both houses, the project maximizes efficiency and ensures consistency in quality and safety standards at each location. This modest investment in infrastructure helps protect existing assets, supports program sustainability, and contributes to the overall success of project outcomes.

### **\$1500 – Classroom Furnishings**

Grant funds in the amount of \$1,500 are requested to purchase classroom furnishings for both recovery houses. These furnishings will include desks, chairs, shelving, and other necessary items to create safe, functional, and accessible learning environments for program participants. Providing appropriate classroom furnishings ensures that participants have adequate space and resources for instruction, group activities, and individual study, supporting engagement and program success. All furnishings will be used exclusively for project-related educational and programmatic activities.

### **\$17,786 – Personnel and Fringe Benefits**

Grant funds are requested to support key personnel essential to the implementation and fiscal oversight of the project. The Project Director will be supported at 20% of salary, totaling \$11,515 to provide overall leadership, coordination, supervision of project activities, and reporting. In addition, 5% effort is requested for the Project's Finance Coordinator to ensure accurate fiscal management, compliance with grant requirements, and timely financial reporting, at a total cost of \$2,000. Fringe benefits are calculated using the institution's approved rates and are requested for the Project Director at 32.09%, totaling \$3,695, and for the Project's Finance Coordinator at 28.79%, totaling \$576. Personnel and fringe costs are reasonable, necessary, and directly attributable to the successful administration of the project.

### **\$1500 – Supply List for Residents**

Grant funds in the amount of \$1,500 are requested to provide residents with clothing and essential supplies to support successful entry into the workforce. These funds will be used to purchase professional attire, footwear, and other necessary items to ensure participants present themselves appropriately in job interviews, training programs, and employment settings. Providing these resources helps remove barriers to employment, promotes confidence, and supports the overall goals of the program. All clothing and supplies will be used exclusively for program participants and directly related to project objectives.

### **Indirect, Matching, In-Kind Contributions**

#### **\$4964 – Facilities and In-Kind Contributions**

The project leverages both fair rental value and in-kind contributions to support program implementation and reduce overall costs. Dedicated study/computer rooms in both recovery houses have been allocated for exclusive project use. In the first residence, which totals 2,800 square feet with a monthly rent of \$2,000, the 300-square-foot study area houses four computer workstations and one printer. The fair rental value allocated to the grant is \$213 per month, totaling \$1,917 for nine months. In the second residence, which totals 1,200 square feet with a monthly rent of \$1,200, the 300-square-foot study area similarly houses four computer workstations and one printer. The fair rental value allocated to the grant is \$258 per month, totaling \$2,322 for nine months.

Internet service for both residencies is provided as an in-kind contribution and allocated proportionally by square footage. In the 2,800-square-foot residence with a \$70 monthly internet cost, the study room represents an in-kind value of \$7.50 per month, totaling \$67.50 for nine months. In the 1,200-square-foot residence, the study room represents an in-kind value of \$17.50 per month, totaling \$157.50 for nine months. All allocated space and services are used exclusively for project- related instructional, administrative, and academic activities, ensuring equitable access for participants and supporting successful program implementation.

#### **\$500 – Project Director’s Travel (In-Kind)**

As allotted and given by Marshall University’s College of Education and Professional Development. A total of \$500 is estimated for travel over the nine-month project period. This travel supports site visits, program oversight, and coordination between the two recovery houses, ensuring effective implementation and supervision of project activities. All travel is directly related to project objectives and is provided at no cost to the grant, representing a valuable in-kind contribution to the successful administration of the program.

#### **\$6880 – Compassion Central West Virginia Founder and Community Pastor – Volunteer Service / Labor**

The Compassion Central Director will contribute volunteer labor to support project implementation, averaging 8 hours per week over the nine-month project period. At a rate of \$20 per hour (based on his salary-equivalent hourly wage), this contribution represents a significant in-kind investment in the project. His efforts will include oversight of program activities, mentoring participants, coordinating resources, and supporting project evaluation. This volunteer contribution not only provides essential staff support during the grant period but also enhances project sustainability, as the Director will continue to carry forward program activities and maintain outcomes beyond the funded period.

#### **\$1000 – Women’s Clothing**

A donation of up to \$1,000 in new women’s clothing will be provided to support program participants as they prepare to enter or re-enter the workforce. These items will include professional attire, footwear, and other essential clothing necessary for interviews, training, and employment. This in-kind contribution removes barriers to employment, promotes participant confidence, and supports program objectives. All donated clothing will be used exclusively for project participants and directly aligned with the goals of the program.

### **\$3,669 – Facilities and Administrative (Indirect) Costs**

The project includes \$3,313 for Facilities and Administrative (F&A) or indirect costs, as provided by Marshall University. These costs are calculated based on the institution's federally approved indirect rate and cover essential administrative support, building maintenance, utilities, and other overhead necessary for the effective management and operation of the project. Indirect costs ensure compliance with institutional and federal requirements and support the infrastructure that enables successful program implementation.

### **\$500 – In-Kind Construction Labor (Matching)**

An in-kind contribution valued at \$500 is provided through donated construction labor to support minor improvements in two project rooms across the program houses. This donated labor will include tasks such as basic repairs, painting, light carpentry, and installation or adjustment of fixtures necessary to prepare the rooms for program use.

The value of the in-kind contribution is calculated using a conservative local labor rate and reflects the fair market value of the services provided. These improvements directly support program implementation by ensuring that designated spaces are safe, functional, and suitable for resident activities related to workforce readiness and supportive services.

This matching in-kind contribution reduces overall project costs while strengthening sustainability by leveraging community support and maximizing the impact of grant funds. The donated labor complements the requested construction and remodeling funds and demonstrates organizational commitment to maintaining program facilities beyond the grant period.

### **List any partners in this proposal, the partners' roles, and your relationship with them. \***

*3.5 page maximum*

Dr. Jerry L. Dooley, Assistant Professor of Counseling, Marshall University, Project Director / Investigator.

Rev. George Boyle, himself in recovery, is a colleague of the Program Director and Founder / Community Pastor of Compassion Central West Virginia. Rev. Boyle will be trained to assist in this project through Professional Development by YouScience and will be integral in developing resident buy-in, incorporating the program intervention into their recovery system and schedule, as well as learning how to implement the sustainability of the program after the grant has concluded. Additionally, his time will be given back to the project as in-kind service.

Rev. Boyle leads the Compassion Central West Virginia Board which this project's PI is a member. While this grant and project is submitted by the Marshall University Research Corporation and has Dr. Jerry Dooley as PI, Dooley is also a member of the Compassion Central West Virginia Board. This matter of fact will also assist in project sustainability.

YouScience personnel will offer professional development to PI and Rev. Boyle to successfully implement the project intervention and in ways of effectively cultivating relationships with community stakeholders such as employers, agencies, and other organizations.

**Describe your plan for sustainability after the grant award has been exhausted. \***

*3.5 page maximum*

**Sustainability Plan:**

Sustainability will be achieved through the development of strong, reciprocal partnerships with local employers, workforce agencies, and community organizations. As these partnerships mature, they will create a self-sustaining network that supports ongoing vocational placements and mentorship opportunities for future residents.

Additionally, program materials and staff training will be developed with replication in mind, allowing the model to be easily implemented in other sober living homes or recovery programs. The use of the YouScience platform—a scalable, data-driven tool—ensures that program delivery remains cost-effective and adaptable over time.

As residents gain employment and community integration, the program’s success will strengthen relationships with local businesses and potential funders. These outcomes will create opportunities for future funding through employer sponsorships, workforce development grants, and recovery-oriented community partnerships.

To support the sustainability of this initiative beyond the initial funding period, the project team will also actively pursue additional grant opportunities and engage in collaborative proposal development with institutional and external partners. These efforts will leverage project outcomes and evaluation data to strengthen future applications and secure long-term resources, ensuring continued impact and scalability.

Ultimately, the evaluation and sustainability strategies will ensure that this initiative continues to empower individuals in recovery long after the initial grant period—creating a model of recovery-focused vocational development that can be replicated and expanded to benefit other communities.

**Section Four: Organization Information**

**Provide your organization’s mission statement. \***

The mission of the Marshall University Counseling Department is to prepare aspiring counselors to serve their schools and communities as ethical, competent, and culturally sensitive practitioners.

**Describe the history of your organization. \***

Counselor Education at Marshall University can be traced back to approximately 1961 through the College of Graduate Studies (COGS) and later Marshall University, which merged in 1997. The first application for accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs (CACREP; <https://www.cacrep.org/>) was submitted in 1985, and our current accreditation cycle runs through 2025 (with reaffirmation expected in the fall of 2025). Throughout our history, the counseling department has offered undergraduate and graduate degrees in several specialty fields to support the needs of graduates and the people they would eventually serve in their communities and schools. Since the early 2000s, the department has experimented with digital learning methods, and in 2017, the department received accreditation for a complete degree option that was delivered 100% remotely. This remote degree option enhances access to counselor education in West Virginia (WV) and beyond. As the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, the department was well positioned to continue their digital delivery while continuing to innovate with a variety of instructional methods. Given enrollment growth, the former “counseling program” was formally recognized as the “counseling department” in 2022, and we retired the on-ground delivery method in 2023. This pivot allowed the department to focus on elevating the digital delivery method while maintaining a rich and vibrant campus community for those that could relocate or travel to campus. Although our roots and many of our faculty and resources are in West Virginia, we are a national and international program; so, wherever you are, there too is Marshall!

**Tell us about your current programs and activities: \***

- **Program Offerings.** Currently, the Graduate Department of Counseling offers a Master of Arts in Counseling in two program areas: Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling. Both of these programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling Related Educational Program (CACREP) and both meet the educational requirement to apply for either the Licensed Professional Counselor or the Certified School Counselor credentials in the state of West Virginia. Additionally, the program offers a specific graduate certificate which specializes in Violence, Loss, and Trauma (VoLT) for clinicians who wish to have more training in these areas.
- **AGD Bachelor to Masters.** Over the last two years, the department has launched a new accelerated bachelor to masters program that will enable students to take some graduate level courses during their bachelor program as an entry into the counseling program.
- **Microcredentials.** Over the last three years, the Graduate Counseling Department has launched three microcredentials: Generative AI 101 for Mental Health Providers, Telebehavioral Health, and Neuroscience Literacy for Mental Health Professionals. These microcredentials are strategically designed to provide current research, information, and implementation in the field of counseling.
- **Roots of Resilience Initiative.** Roots of Resilience, a statewide initiative focused on education, training, and workforce development in maternal mental health, is led by Dr. Jerica Wesley, a core faculty member in the department. This virtual series will explore key topics like perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, advocacy, cultural responsiveness, and West Virginia’s unique role in the founding of Mother’s Day. This initiative, reaching out to counseling students, could provide internship stipends for students focusing on maternal mental health and free student memberships to Postpartum Support International (PSI).

**Describe three significant accomplishments of your organization within the last three years. \***

- **Pilot Neuroscience Literacy in Mental Health Project.** This project seeks to increase the neuroscience literacy of 500 mental health professionals within a two-year period. The project’s aim is to promote knowledge transfer from basic and applied neuroscientists to professionals in the public they serve.
- **Telebehavioral Health Training Curriculum.** The Telebehavioral Health Training Curriculum project will increase the availability of telebehavioral health training in West Virginia and establish West Virginia as a training hub for telebehavioral health. The project will create a pathway to advanced credentials for telebehavioral health, elevate the behavioral health workforce, and increase access to high-quality telebehavioral healthcare.
- **West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission Paid Internship Grant.** In 2024, the Graduate Counseling Department, Marshall University’s Graduate Department of Social Work, and MURC applied for, and was subsequently awarded a \$60,000 grant for paid internships. As co-PI, this project’s PI was awarded half of that grant, \$30,000 to implement the grant within the counseling department. The project provided stipend support for master’s students in the Marshall University Counseling Master’s Program during their supervised clinical internship training. Furthermore, this grant project assisted in providing financial support for master level, clinical internship counseling students in Marshall University’s Graduate Counseling Program to address the need for long-term, quality mental health services, and SUD treatment in West Virginia.

**All sources of funding\***

List all funds received by your organization from any federal, state, local or private grant awards or funding received in the last year and the current status of those funds.

**DANA Foundation.** This foundation’s stated purpose: “The Dana Foundation” advances neuroscience that benefits society and reflects the aspirations of all people. We explore the connections between neuroscience and society’s challenges and opportunities, working to maximize the potential of the field to do good” (<https://dana.org/about-us/>)

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.** The WVHEPC has funded several initiatives launched by the department, including the Paid Internship Grant, in partnership with the US Department of Labor, discussed in the previous section. Grant cycle has ended.

**State Funds.** The program has also benefited from various state funds through the state of West Virginia.

## Organization Members\*

- *List your Organization's Owner(s), Board of Directors, senior staff members, and other key members of your organization.*
- *List the staff involved with this project and describe their roles and responsibilities:*

The current members of Marshall University's Graduate Program are its Core, Full-Time Faculty. These individuals are as follows: Dr. Eric Beeson (Department Chair), Dr. Lisa Burton (Program Director), Dr. Andrew Burck, Dr. Darlene Daneker, Dr. Jerry Dooley, Dr. Breanna Ellington, Dr. Lori Ellison, Dr. Jeff Garrett, Dr. Jonathan Lent, Dr. Kari Mika-Lude, Dr. Jill Minor, Dr. Carol Smith, and Dr. Jerica Wesley. <https://www.marshall.edu/coepd/directory/counseling/>