

## Alkermes Inspiration Grants® COVID-19 Relief Fund

### 2020 Grant Recipients

#### **10,000 Beds**

##### **Social Reintegration for Recovering Individuals (SRRI): Specifically Designed for Today's COVID-19 World of Social Distancing**

In this COVID-19 world, fear, misinformation, and prejudice still affect those battling addiction. 10,000 Beds is committed to growing and adapting existing programs to meet new and emerging needs. In 2020, 10,000 Beds will launch a new podcast as an avenue for connection and information. The podcast will be available to all people in recovery, their families, friends, and anyone who wants to listen. The podcast's purpose is to give people in recovery access to accurate information, a safe place to be heard and to listen, and a source for guidance on how to navigate a socially distanced world as they attempt to socially reintegrate.

#### **Clubhouse International**

##### **Developing Online Communities – Digital Project to Strengthen Social Connectivity Solutions for People Living with Mental Illness**

The Clubhouse community – a network of more than 300 Clubhouses in the world, 2/3 of which are in the US – has rallied with the challenges of the recent pandemic. Almost overnight, a model which is built on the power of a physical community has transformed itself into a virtual operation. Clubhouse International, the connecting body for the global Clubhouse community, is following suit. The new Online Communities project will establish new channels of communication and virtual resources for Clubhouses and their members around the world. Virtual communication in many ways will be a permanent part of society going forward. The Online Communities project is a comprehensive digital response that will seek to ensure Clubhouse International is able to continue to fulfill its mission of ending social and economic isolation for people living with mental illness despite the future impact of the pandemic and leveraging virtual opportunities going forward.

#### **Community Servings**

##### **Nutrition Program for Individuals and Families Affected by Cancer**

Community Servings provides scratch-made, medically tailored meals to food-insecure chronically/critically ill individuals and their families throughout Massachusetts. 18% of clients are living with cancer; 94% are living in poverty. Community Servings is on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic as an emergency food provider and is the only medically tailored meal provider in Massachusetts. Its referral partners are reaching out daily, requesting assistance in feeding additional food-insecure, severely ill individuals, including those battling cancer. Community Servings is urgently working to leverage its expertise in home-delivered medically tailored meals and its recently-expanded professional kitchen to meet the growing community need for meals. Support of this program will help

increase kitchen/delivery capacity and provide 75,000 medically tailored meals to 340 clients and their families affected by cancer.

## **Faces & Voices of Recovery**

### **Recovery Community Organizations (RCO) Emergency Preparedness and Response Program**

Through the Recovery Community Organizations (RCO) Emergency Preparedness and Response program, Faces & Voices of Recovery will work to ensure RCOs across the nation can sustain and adapt peer recovery support services through and beyond the current COVID-19 pandemic. RCO leadership will be provided with tools and resources to build organizational knowledge, capacity, and resilience in response to emergencies and risks. An iterative approach to developing, testing, and disseminating a response toolkit and training for the RCO network will be deployed. While the immediate focus will be on the current crisis, the tools will be developed as broadly applicable to best practices in crisis response and having numerous applications beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Imerman Angels**

### **Peer-to-Peer Cancer Support**

Imerman Angels partners anyone – with any cancer type, any age, any gender, anywhere in the world – with someone just like them, a “Mentor Angel.” A Mentor Angel is a cancer survivor, previvor, or caregiver who most importantly has faced the same type of cancer. Imerman Angels will continue to provide COVID-19 information and support to its community of cancer fighters, survivors, and caregivers, doubling down on efforts to provide resources to cancer support organizations that can’t conduct their typical programs in-person and continue to be a vital source of hope and comfort in an uncertain time. Imerman Angels will provide increased online capacity, video programming, and other digital vehicles to deliver its unique one-on-one cancer support program.

## **National Alliance on Mental Illness of New York City**

### **Helping NYC Residents with Mental Illness and Their Families, and Supporting NAMI-NYC’s Helpline Throughout COVID-19**

NAMI-NYC’s peer-led, evidence based mental health programs and services have seen a huge increase in demand due to the isolation, loneliness, and mental-health challenge producing circumstances of the coronavirus. The Helpline remains the first port of call for many New Yorkers in need of mental health services and support. Its programs – now functioning online, virtual, and telephonic – are more important now than ever with 60% increase in Helpline calls compared to monthly volume over the prior 12 months. The nature and the content of Helpline calls have changed: more from people in crisis; longer calls, dealing with more complex problems; more on COVID-19 related topics such as unemployment, coping with anxiety, accessing remote services, etc. Through its Helpline, NAMI-NYC continues to provide materials and resources on current and ever-changing COVID-19 issues relating to mental health in New York City including housing, employment, healthcare, public services/benefits, and legal services.

## Ohio Recovery Housing

### **COVID-19 Response Initiative**

Ohio Recovery Housing (ORH) is looking to provide recovery housing operators the best practice guidance, training, and technical assistance they need to continue to offer quality environments during and after the pandemic. Funding from this grant will amplify existing work and help ORH look beyond immediate needs, bring back lost capacity, be more sustainable, and grow to meet increasing demand. ORH plans do this through a three-pronged approach, producing and distributing best practice guidance in coordination with experts, providing virtual training opportunities, as well as providing individualized technical assistance, advice, and support.

## Sound Mind Live

### **Artist Ambassador Crisis Response Program**

Sound Mind Live “Artist Ambassadors Crisis Response Program” is a series of media products featuring well-known musical artists speaking out on mental health effects of COVID-19 and ways to address them. They include a COVID-19 Mental Health Resource Toolkit and a series of online interviews, virtual panels, and podcasts released over the course of 12 months. These will leverage additional videos currently in production with other funds to collectively reach an audience of 1.25M including people living with serious mental illness through cross-distribution on national mental health and music partner websites. Sound Mind Live anticipates that at least 2.5% of the audience (31,250) will take action to improve mental health and at least 80% of audience members will report increased comfort speaking out and seeking treatment.

## This Is My Brave

### **BraveTV, Facebook Live series with This Is My Brave alums from across US**

This Is My Brave digital programming – BraveTV, Facebook Live 15-episode series – to urgently address COVID-19 related needs for people living with addiction and serious mental illness. The debut episode featured This Is My Brave alums who are First Responders/Healthcare workers on the frontlines of this pandemic. The goal is to build upon this important programming throughout this year and beyond to continually increase the number of individuals putting a name, face, and story to mental illness through storytelling, and with a focus on highlighting and partnering with mental health organizations that are led by, and serve, members of the Black community.

## Young People in Recovery

### **Virtual Peer Recovery Support Services**

As the pandemic has fundamentally altered the way that recovery support services are being delivered for individuals with substance use disorder, YPR has moved all of its activities and events online so that it may continue to serve youth and young adults who are no longer able to access in-person services such as peer recovery support meetings, pro-social activities, and life skills trainings to help them maintain long-term recovery from drugs and alcohol. These include activities like virtual resume-building seminars; pro-social events such as virtual open-mic nights, bingo, and yoga; as well as its first-ever, nationwide, virtual all-recovery meetings.