

Contact: Allies in Recovery
57 Prospect St #2, Northampton, MA 01060
413.387.9395
support@alliesinrecovery.net
www.alliesinrecovery.net

For immediate release
April 17, 2025

Government Cuts Hit Local Addiction Work: Families on the Front Line Abandoned

Raise your hand if you know of a proven way to help someone in the throes of addiction.

Look—someone’s raising their hand. In fact, thousands of families are raising their hands. What helped them get two-thirds of their loved ones to reduce substance use, enter treatment, and stay in recovery six times longer? **Allies in Recovery**, a proven program that trains families to guide their loved ones into lasting recovery. These families are living proof that healing from addiction is within everyone’s reach.

On March 3, just 42 days into the Trump administration, Massachusetts abruptly terminated its essential support for Allies in Recovery, a lifeline for thousands of families for the last 21 years, most of whom can participate for free thanks to that funding. Allies’ contract is now set to expire June 30. If that happens, its vital work will come to an end.

Abandoning these families will leave them without the tools they desperately need for lasting recovery and stability, and risks reversing hard-earned declines in deaths from opioids and other drugs.

In Massachusetts alone, over 3,500 families have engaged with the science-backed CRAFT (Community Reinforcement and Family Training) approach through Allies in Recovery, creating informed and empowered individuals who can effectively guide their loved ones toward care and sustained recovery.

Families are the first responders in the opioid epidemic. They are the most plentiful and dedicated labor force in our national struggle with substance use. They are uniquely motivated and work for free. Training family members is the best investment we can possibly make.

Since its founding, Allies in Recovery has been at the forefront of the fight against substance use disorder, successfully implementing the CRAFT method through a scalable, self-paced eLearning program that includes live groups, blogs, podcasts, individual guidance, and access to specialists. It’s a success story in every sense of the word.

Allies is sounding the alarm about these cuts across the Commonwealth—and using an advocacy toolkit to mobilize families and supporters to contact their representatives and demand their reversal. **“The families we work with have proven their dedication and effectiveness time and again,”** says Allies CEO and founder Dominique Simon-Levine, **“and we’ve been helping more of them every year. Our message to policymakers is simple: don’t throw this progress away.”**

With nearly 50% of U.S. families reporting having loved ones with substance use disorder—and half of those loved ones initially resistant to help—the importance of continuing and strengthening family-focused support programs cannot be overstated. Simply put, training and supporting families saves lives, rebuilds community, and ensures long-term recovery. **Cutting off that support is negligent, impractical, inefficient, and inhumane.**

To find out more about Allies in Recovery and its make-or-break search for new funding, contact Dominique Simon-Levine at support@alliesinrecovery.net.

###