



Appalachian Regional Commission

INSPIRE 2022 Awards - Grantee Press Release

EMBARGOED UNTIL 2:00PM ET on September 8, 2022

Raven Cares, Inc. Receives \$500,000.00 from Appalachian Regional Commission's INSPIRE Initiative

Project Point is part of a \$12 million award package and will provide safe housing, wrap-around services, and job development and placement to help address the substance use disorder crisis in Rowan County.

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY, 09/08/22—Raven Cares, Inc. has been awarded \$500,000.00 by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to establish a re-entry program that will stabilize individuals who have completed a substance use rehabilitation program. The re-entry program titled, Project Point, will create a recovery ecosystem that provides wrap-around services including housing, mental health treatment, case management, relapse prevention tools, transportation, job training and placement, and life skills classes to families in Rowan County. The project is made possible by partnership with the Morehead State Adult Learning Center, Kentucky Career Center, Maysville Community and Technical College, St. Claire Healthcare, Stock Yards Bank, Kentucky Chamber Foundation, City of Morehead, and Rowan County Fiscal Court.

The award is part of a recently announced \$12 million package through ARC's [INSPIRE Initiative](#), which addresses the region's substance use disorder crisis with investments that strengthen services in the recovery ecosystem and help facilitate workforce entry and re-entry.

"I commend Raven Cares, Inc. for their work supporting the recovery ecosystem in Appalachian. They are integral to bringing our INSPIRE projects to life," said ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin. "Raven Cares, Inc. is a great asset in our efforts to address the region's substance use disorder crisis, and I look forward to seeing how they will help build a strong recovery ecosystem and a stronger workforce for the opportunities of tomorrow."

"We are grateful to the Appalachian Regional Commission for their support of Project Point," said John David Elam, Raven Cares' CEO. "This project removes barriers that individuals in recovery often face and sets them up for success in meaningful long term employment. This project benefits our communities, our local businesses, and most importantly - it rebuilds families in the Appalachian region."

The program was titled, Project Point, based on Narcotics Anonymous literature which provides that an individual will reach a "point" where they must decide which direction they want to take their recovery. Individuals electing to be part of Project Point are making the choice to excel in their recovery and to engage themselves in the community.

Since INSPIRE was established in April 2021, ARC has invested \$28.1 million in 83 projects across 289 Appalachian counties. The \$12 million package for FY2022 is projected to improve nearly 450 businesses and prepare nearly 3,000 students and workers for new opportunities in the workforce.

ARC is expecting to issue a request for proposals for the next round of INSPIRE grant opportunities in early 2023. Additional information and resources are available at arc.gov/SUD.

About the Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission is an economic development agency of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 423 counties across the Appalachian Region. ARC's mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia to help the Region achieve socioeconomic parity with the nation.

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