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Keystone Hall expansion...would be good for region

Telegraph, The (Nashua, NH) - Wednesday, March 3, 2010

As a longtime state representative, registered nurse, and retired manager of community health for the city, I want to support Keystone Hall 's efforts to expand its substance abuse treatment, prevention and recovery support services through the acquisition and redevelopment of a larger and more suitable home (Feb. 14: "Rehab facility's future uncertain / Keystone Hall will host forum to discuss program").

Within the state's current treatment system, there is the capacity to provide services to less than 6 percent of individuals and families in need.

Drug overdoses claim too many lives in the Granite State. More and more people are dying from addiction, a chronic disease affecting more than 23 million Americans.

In its current location, Keystone Hall is unable to obtain licensure to operate several critically needed initiatives – including a Level III medical detoxification program and a residential treatment program for pregnant, post-partum, and parenting women and their children – due to structural defects and physical issues. The number of individuals served through outpatient programs is also limited due to a severe lack of space and parking.

With more than 1,000 individuals in need turned away annually, and a waiting list in the hundreds that continues to grow each year, there is no question that a new facility is needed.

It is my hope that each individual in Greater Nashua will work to support expanding this vital agency. If you would like to learn more about the expansion project or help to raise the necessary funds, please contact Keystone Hall directly at 881-4848.

Rep. Joan Schulze

Nashua

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