



**Board of County Commissioners**

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January 21, 2020

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
20 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 5110  
Washington, DC 20529

Subject: EB-5 Application of All Points North Lodge  
Expedite Application – Urgent Request for Consideration  
Treatment for Addiction & Mental Illness  
**All Points North Lodge**

To Whom It May Concern,

With great urgency and action already being taken to combat the crisis, we write to bring the nationwide addiction and substance abuse crisis to your attention once again, on behalf of the efforts of All Points North (APN) Lodge and its existing and future patients. We request your expedition and approval of APN Lodge's EB-5 application to propel life change and critical care forward for those suffering from addiction in the Eagle River Valley and across the nation. Because of the high demand and unmet need for these proposed services in this area, we consider this project to be serving an urgent humanitarian need. We also believe that by launching this project sooner than later (thanks to the injection of EB-5 capital into the project), the project meets the criterium of serving a compelling U.S. government interest.

The fight against addiction is no small endeavor. According to SAMHSA's *Key Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators in the United States: Results from the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health*, "In 2018, approximately 20.3 million people aged 12 or older had a substance use disorder (SUD) related to their use of alcohol or illicit drugs in the past year, including 14.8 million people who had an alcohol use disorder and 8.1 million people who had an illicit drug use disorder." This grave public health crisis spans from the very young to the very old – many of whom suffer in denial or in secret. SAMHSA offers the following statistics regarding the current state of drug and alcohol misuse in the United States:

- "Approximately 3.4 million young adults aged 18 to 25 in 2018 had an alcohol use disorder in the past year. This number of young adults with an alcohol use disorder corresponds to 10.1 percent of young adults."
- "In 2018, about 1 in 4 people aged 12 or older (24.5 percent) were current binge alcohol users."
- About 1 out of every 11 young adults aged 18 to 25 (9.0 percent) in 2018 was a current heavy alcohol drinker."



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- “An estimated 6.2 percent of adults aged 26 or older in 2018 were current heavy drinkers.”
- “In 2018, approximately 11.0 million adults aged 26 or older had an alcohol use disorder in the past year, which corresponds to 5.1 percent of the adults in this age group.”
- “An estimated 2.0 million people had an opioid use disorder, which includes 1.7 million people with a prescription pain reliever use disorder and 0.5 million people with a heroin use disorder.”
- “Approximately 9.9 million people aged 12 or older in 2018 misused prescription pain relievers in the past year, which corresponds to 3.6 percent of the population.”

Mental health disorders often run hand-in-hand with risk of substance abuse and addiction. According to SAMHSA, “In 2018, an estimated 9.2 million adults aged 18 or older (3.7 percent of all adults) had both any mental illness and at least one substance use disorder in the past year, and 3.2 million adults (1.3 percent of all adults) had co-occurring serious mental illness and a substance use disorder in the past year.” The addiction treatment landscape in our country is in desperate need of treatment that targets both addiction and the co-occurring mental illness that is poised to trigger relapse without proper treatment.

We fervently request your approval to expedite the EB-5 application for All Points North Lodge’s principal capital investment to expand the impact of science-based addiction treatment and raise the industry standard for both care and recovery.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners

Kathy Chandler-Henry

Chair

Matt Scherr

Commissioner

Jeanne McQueeney

Commissioner

References:

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2019). *Key substance use and mental health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (HHS Publication No. PEP19-5068, NSDUH Series H-54). Rockville, MD: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Retrieved from <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/>