

**From:** [Phillip M. Earhart](#)  
**To:** [Alecia L. Craighead](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] In Support of Certificate of Need for Cedar Recovery; Request to be Added to Board Members' Packet  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 16, 2024 7:34:03 AM

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Support Letter  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** adam shannon <shannonadamj99@gmail.com>  
**Date:** July 16, 2024 at 4:05:42 AM CDT  
**To:** "Phillip M. Earhart" <Phillip.M.Earhart@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Support of Certificate of Need for Cedar Recovery; Request to be Added to Board Members' Packet

**\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\***

Hello,

I am a resident of Putnam County, Tennessee. I am writing as a private citizen urging you to vote in support of the application for a Certificate of Need submitted by Cedar Recovery for a methadone clinic at 1805 Burgess Falls Road, Cookeville, Tennessee. I request that you add the foregoing letter to the board members' packet for the hearing of the application.

Opioid addiction is a problem in our state, and empirical research studies have found methadone treatment to be effective in reducing opioid abuse and overdose. The proposed clinic in our area will provide methadone treatment for Putnam County, which provides several benefits including but not limited to:

**Decreasing mortality rates.** [Santo et al.'s \(2021\)](#) metastudy analyzed 51 research studies and included a total of over 750,000 opioid-dependent participants. The authors found the mortality rate of people in opioid agonist treatment was half of the mortality rate outside of treatment. The authors state there was a lower risk of drug-related or alcohol-related death during opioid abuse treatment. This study found methadone and buprenorphine equally decreased mortality.

**Preventing overdose after treatment.** [Wakeman et al.'s \(2020\)](#) research funded by the US National Institute on Drug Abuse compared methadone or buprenorphine assisted treatment to five other treatments including inpatient treatment and intensive outpatient interventions. Wakeman et al. reported methadone or buprenorphine treatment was associated with reduced opioid overdose compared to all other treatments. Most notably, **only** methadone or buprenorphine treatment was related to a reduced risk of overdose during 3-month and 12-month follow-ups. **No other treatment was associated with reduced overdose risk after treatment.**

**Decreasing local crime.** [Furr-Holden et al.'s \(2016\)](#) research funded by

the US National Institute on Drug Abuse examined if drug treatment centers increased crime. They compared crime near drug treatment centers to crime around businesses like liquor stores and convenience stores. The authors found that the average amount of crime near drug treatment centers was less than the average amount of crime around liquor stores, corner stores, and convenience stores.

**Decreasing crime by repeat offenders.** [Russolillo et al.'s \(2018\)](#) longitudinal study included 14,530 people with a history of incarceration and methadone use. The authors reported these participants exhibited 33% less violent crime and 35% less non-violent crime while methadone was available.

Methadone treatment saves lives and helps people recover from opioid use disorder. No studies have reported evidence to suggest that methadone treatment centers increase crime, and evidence suggests that methadone treatment decreases violent and nonviolent crime. While Putnam County does host buprenorphine clinics, there are currently no methadone clinics. Denying Cedar Recovery its Certificate of Need will limit the ability of Putnam County residents to receive care, and needlessly postpone recovery.

Sincerely,

Adam Shannon

#### References:

- Furr-Holden, C. D. M., Milam, A. J., Nesoff, E. D., Johnson, R. M., Fakunle, D. O., Jennings, J. M., & Thorpe, R. J. (2016). Not in my backyard: A comparative analysis of crime around publicly funded drug treatment centers, liquor stores, convenience stores, and corner stores in one Mid-Atlantic city. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 77(1), 17–24. <https://doi.org/10.15288/jsad.2016.77.17>
- Santo, T., Clark, B., Hickman, M., Grebely, J., Campbell, G., Sordo, L., Chen, A., Tran, L. T., Bharat, C., Padmanathan, P., Cousins, G., Dupouy, J., Kelty, E., Muga, R., Nosyk, B., Min, J., Pavarin, R., Farrell, M., & Degenhardt, L. (2021). Association of opioid agonist treatment with All-Cause mortality and specific causes of death among people with opioid dependence. *JAMA Psychiatry*, 78(9), 979. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2021.0976>
- Russolillo, A., Moniruzzaman, A., McCandless, L. C., Patterson, M., & Somers, J. M. (2017). Associations between methadone maintenance treatment and crime: a 17-year longitudinal cohort study of Canadian provincial offenders. *Addiction*, 113(4), 656–667. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.14059>
- Wakeman, S. E., Laroche, M. R., Ameli, O., Chaisson, C. E., McPheeters, J. T., Crown, W. H., Azocar, F., & Sanghavi, D. M. (2020). Comparative effectiveness of different treatment pathways for opioid use disorder. *JAMA Network Open*, 3(2), e1920622. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.20622>

**From:** [Phillip M. Earhart](#)  
**To:** [Alecia L. Craighead](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] "In Support of Certificate of Need for Cedar Recovery; Request to Be Added to the Board Members" Packet  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 16, 2024 8:24:56 AM

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## Support Letter

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**From:** Amy Simmons <ar.simmons1012@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 16, 2024 8:08 AM  
**To:** Phillip M. Earhart <Phillip.M.Earhart@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] "In Support of Certificate of Need for Cedar Recovery; Request to Be Added to the Board Members' Packet

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Hello,

I am a resident of Putnam County, Tennessee. I am writing as a private citizen urging you to vote in support of the application for a Certificate of Need submitted by Cedar Recovery for a methadone clinic at 1805 Burgess Falls Road, Cookeville, Tennessee. I request that you add the foregoing letter to the board members' packet for the hearing of the application.

Opioid addiction is a problem in our state, and empirical research studies have found methadone treatment to be effective in reducing opioid abuse and overdose. The proposed clinic in our area will provide methadone treatment for Putnam County, which provides several benefits including but not limited to:

1. **Decreasing mortality rates.** [Santo et al.'s \(2021\)](#) metastudy analyzed 51 research studies and included a total of over 750,000 opioid-dependent participants. The authors found the mortality rate of people in opioid agonist treatment was half of the mortality rate outside of treatment. The authors state there was a lower risk of drug-related or alcohol-related death during opioid abuse treatment. This study found methadone and buprenorphine equally decreased mortality.
2. **Preventing overdose after treatment.** [Wakeman et al.'s \(2020\)](#) research funded by the US National Institute on Drug Abuse compared methadone or buprenorphine assisted treatment to five other treatments including inpatient treatment and intensive outpatient interventions. Wakeman et al. reported methadone or buprenorphine treatment was associated with reduced opioid overdose compared to all other treatments. Most notably, only methadone or buprenorphine treatment was related to a reduced risk of overdose during 3-month and 12-month follow-ups. No other treatment was associated with reduced overdose risk after treatment.
3. **Decreasing local crime.** [Furr-Holden et al.'s \(2016\)](#) research funded by the US National Institute on Drug Abuse examined if drug treatment centers increased crime. They compared crime near drug treatment centers to crime around businesses like liquor stores and convenience stores. The authors found that the average amount of crime near drug treatment centers was less than the average amount of crime around liquor stores, corner stores, and convenience stores.

4. **Decreasing crime by repeat offenders.** Russolillo et al.'s (2018) longitudinal study included 14,530 people with a history of incarceration and methadone use. The authors reported these participants exhibited 33% less violent crime and 35% less non-violent crime while methadone was available.

Methadone treatment saves lives and helps people recover from opioid use disorder. No studies have reported evidence to suggest that methadone treatment centers increase crime, and evidence suggests that methadone treatment decreases violent and nonviolent crime. While Putnam County does host buprenorphine clinics, there are currently no methadone clinics. Denying Cedar Recovery its Certificate of Need will limit the ability of Putnam County residents to receive care, and needlessly postpone recovery.

**The alternative is fentanyl. Remember that.**

Sincerely,

Amy Simmons

References:

Furr-Holden, C. D. M., Milam, A. J., Nesoff, E. D., Johnson, R. M., Fakunle, D. O., Jennings, J. M., & Thorpe, R. J. (2016). Not in my back yard: A comparative analysis of crime around publicly funded drug treatment centers, liquor stores, convenience stores, and corner stores in one Mid-Atlantic city. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 77(1), 17–24.

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<https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.20622>

**From:** [Phillip M. Earhart](#)  
**To:** [Alecia L. Craighead](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Support to Certificate of Need - Cedar Recovery; Request to Be Added to the Board Members' Packet  
**Date:** Monday, July 15, 2024 9:39:39 PM

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Support Letter

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** catherinefisher17@aol.com  
**Date:** July 15, 2024 at 5:07:52 PM CDT  
**To:** "Phillip M. Earhart" <Phillip.M.Earhart@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support to Certificate of Need - Cedar Recovery; Request to Be Added to the Board Members' Packet

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Sincerely,  
Catherine Fisher

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Furr-Holden, C. D. M., Milam, A. J., Nesoff, E. D., Johnson, R. M., Fakunle, D. O., Jennings, J. M., & Thorpe, R. J. (2016). Not in my backyard: A comparative analysis of crime around publicly funded drug treatment centers, liquor stores, convenience stores, and corner stores in one Mid-Atlantic city. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 77(1), 17–24. <https://doi.org/10.15288/jsad.2016.77.17>  
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**From:** [Phillip M. Earhart](#)  
**To:** [Alecia L. Craighead](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Letter in Support of Cedar Recovery Certificate of Need for a Methadone Clinic  
**Date:** Monday, July 15, 2024 9:40:04 PM

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Support Letter

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nick Woods <nwoodspys@gmail.com>  
**Date:** July 15, 2024 at 4:59:44 PM CDT  
**To:** hsdastaff@tn.gov, "Phillip M. Earhart" <Phillip.M.Earhart@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter in Support of Cedar Recovery Certificate of Need for a Methadone Clinic

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Nick Woods

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