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Buxton

As someone who was involved with the opening of the original Recovery Community Center in Portland, I have seen how these centers benefit our communities; and I've seen this both on a personal and professional level.

Professionally, I've worked with women who were incarcerated and to be able to offer them the resource of a physical space to go to upon release, to connect with others who could understand and empathize with their situation, was literally a life-saver for some.

Personally, I've seen recovery centers support people I love to get the much-needed human connection they needed to address their trauma in a compassionate and meaningful way that can sometimes only be done in a welcoming space such as a recovery center.

This pandemic has shown us all how important human connection is and making recovery centers accessible to all in every part of our State should be a priority for all who are working to serve Mainers.