Why I Built This

I know what it's like to need exactly what this is — and to not be able to find it.

That's the short version. The longer version is that I've spent enough time inside this problem to understand what recovery housing gets right when it's done well, and what it gets dangerously wrong when it isn't. The difference between those two things isn't resources or licensing or bed count. It's intention. And intention is the hardest thing to fake over time when someone's life is actually on the line.

A place to land only means something if there's somewhere to launch toward. That's not a tagline. It's the whole argument. Stability without direction is just a longer pause before the next crisis. The people who come through the doors of a sober living environment aren't looking for somewhere to stop. They're looking for somewhere to start. Those aren't the same thing, and building something that understands the difference is why this exists.

The essay that accompanies this — The Universe of Opportunity — maps out three beliefs that changed how I move through the world. I didn't arrive at them in a classroom. I arrived at them the hard way, and then reached them again, and then again. I'm still reaching. I offer them not as conclusions but as tools. Try them on. See if they fit.

What I'm asking of everyone who finds their way here — operator, referral partner, or someone standing at the beginning of something hard — is one thing.

Set a destination for yourself.

It can be a small move or a tremendous leap. That's irrelevant. It's a point on a map you can guide yourself toward.

That's what this is here to help you do.

— Chris Berumen
Founder, The Recovery Project