



RECOVERY TALKS:

Community Listening Forum
on Addiction and Recovery

Monday, November 2, 2015

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Marjorie Post Park Community Room

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The third *FOR-NY Recovery Talks: Community Listening Forum* was held at the Marjorie Post Park Community Room, on November 2, 2015 in Massapequa, Long Island. Over forty people attended the event which was co-sponsored by the Long Island Recovery Association (LIRA) and the Drug-Free Partnership of Long Island.

“My son was given suboxone with no counselling supports...he quickly relapsed into using heroin. His brain didn’t know the difference.

- Linda
Massapequa, NY

PURPOSE OF FORUM: CELEBRATE THE JOY OF RECOVERY AND IDENTIFY BARRIERS TO RECOVERY

- ❖ Put a face to people and families in Recovery; a voice to people impacted by addiction; and a space for families and friends who have lost someone to addiction
- ❖ Help individuals and families overcome the stigma that prevents so many from seeking help
- ❖ End discrimination around addiction that create barriers to Recovery
- ❖ Engage and empower Recovery advocates in communities across the state
- ❖ Create an organized advocacy effort to change state policies to expand access to Recovery

HIGHLIGHTS – COMMENTS, PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED, OPPORTUNITIES IDENTIFIED:

- We need to have longer programs for adolescents needing addiction treatment.
- We need recovery services and schools for adolescents who come out of treatment desperate for community sober supports.
- Smoking marijuana has become a normalized way to socialize – there are no consequences or incentives not to do so.
- Current prevention programs in the educational system are not taken seriously. Drug education needs to be relevant and accessible to young people.
- We need support services for children when they are involved in the legal system.

FINDINGS: COMMON THEMES

- Family members identified ongoing treatment for adolescents and supports for the family in dealing with addicted loved ones.

- Young people expressed the need for recovery high schools on Long Island, as well as a recovery centers for support services.
- Families identified the need for more regulation with suboxone prescriptions.
- The focus on the opioid epidemic has led to the minimization of marijuana and other substances.
- Families expressed the need for connection of services, and treatment options after NARCAN is administered.
- Students identified lack of education of relevant drug prevention in schools and that what is presented is outdated.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **Provide education and training** to Parole and probation officers about addiction, particularly as it pertains to first-time drug related offenses.
- **Increase funding and access** for detox and treatment facilities
- **Increase family supports** and services for education, counselling and continuation of care
- **Provide whole family** adolescent treatment system of care
- **Develop educational programs** and supports for individuals and family members involved with the criminal justice system.
- **Implement warm hand-off supports** and services after NARCAN is administered.



(Left to Right): Participants at the third *FOR-NY Recovery Talks: Community Listening Forum* co-sponsored by Long Island Recovery Association (LIRA) and the Drug-Free Partnership of Long Island (DFPLI), which included FOR-NY CEO Bob Lindsey, Nassau County Legislator James Kennedy, Senator Michael Venditto, LIRA President and FOR-NY Board member Richard Buckman, FOR-NY Consultant Nicole Carey, DFPLI President Janice Talento, and Massapequa Park Mayor Jeffrey Pravato.

EVENT AGENDA:

7:00 pm	Welcome:	Robert J. Lindsey: CEO - Friends of Recovery New York (FOR-NY)
7:10 pm	Moderator:	Janice Talento: CEO - Drug Free Long Island (DFLI)
7:15 pm	Speakers:	Lead Speaker: Linda Alagna
8:15 pm	Open Mic:	Open to Anyone Who Wants to Speak
8:30 pm	Comments:	Listening Panel Members
8:45 pm	Wrap-Up:	Robert J. Lindsey - FOR-NY

PANELISTS:

- ❖ **Richard Buckman - LCSW-R, CEAP, SAP, CASAC - President of Long Island Recovery Association (LIRA) and FOR- NY Immediate Past President.** As a person in long-term recovery since 1988, Richard has been at the forefront of the grassroots recovery movement in New York State. A

founding member of the Long Island Recovery Association (LIRA), he is a former two-term President and current board member. Richard was a founding member of Friends of Recovery-New York (FOR-NY) and served as first ever President of our statewide group. He serves on many committees, community boards and task forces on Long Island and at the state level. Richard is a widely respected expert in the field and has been utilized by media, as well as local, state and national organizations to share his considerable insight and experience.

- ❖ **Lisa Ganz - LMSW, CASAC - Clinical Program Supervisor.** As a graduate from Long Island University Post with her Masters in Social Work, Lisa concentrated in Alcohol and Substance Abuse and held the position of President of the MSW Graduate Student Association. She also recently received the honor of the 2012 Social Work Student of the Year Award in Nassau County. Lisa previously graduated in 2010 from Empire State College with a BA in Human Development with a concentration in Psychology.

- ❖ **Angela Piccininni, LCSW R, CASAC is the Clinical Director at YES Community Counseling Center** – As a graduate of New York University’s Silver School of Social Work, Angela is certified in Motivational Enhancement Therapy & Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT-5). She is an expert facilitator and certified trainer of the Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN) assessment tool. Angela holds a credential as a Certified Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor and specializes in addictions, and works with young adults, families, and survivors of trauma. She has facilitated trainings within a variety of arenas on topics including adolescent substance abuse, addiction trends, prescription drug abuse and suicide, accessing treatment services, self-esteem, school avoidance, and parenting. Angela has been at YES Community Counseling Center since 2003.

- ❖ **Detective Pamela Stark, Nassau County Police Department Office of Community Affairs** – As a certified trainer for the "Too Good for Drugs" curriculum, Det. Stark has certified all 56 Nassau County school districts. In December of 2009 Det. Stark was assigned to Community Affairs to be the point person for Nassau's "comprehensive approach" to combat the opiate epidemic. She works extensively with young people in recovery from her community as a part of a team that developed "impact" a video geared for middle school age students to combat substance abuse. The Nassau County Police Department received the 2014 International Association of Chief of Police Community Policing award for their efforts to fight the deadly opiate/heroin epidemic. Det. Stark represents her department at county meetings, task forces, summits, coalitions and conventions, and is frequently requested to speak at conferences, seminars, businesses, medical/dental societies, schools and public events.

- ❖ **Robert J. Lindsey, M.Ed., CEO of Friends of Recovery New York (FOR-NY)** – As the former President/CEO- National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence (NCADD); Bob has served as Vice President of Longview EAP. He has also served as the Community Relations Director of the Betty Ford Center and Executive Director of the New York State Council on Alcoholism & Drug Addiction (NYSCADA); Therapist/Unit Manager at Spofford Hall and Ex. Dir./Clinical Dir- Allegany County Council on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse (ACCASA).

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RECOVERY TALKS:

Community Listening Forum on Addiction and Recovery

This a series of local forums being held across New York State to provide community members the opportunity to share personal experiences in dealing with alcohol and drug addiction, loss of a family member or friend, as well as recovery from addiction.

The Listening Forums will engage the community in discussion with local leaders and result in a report titled, The State of Addiction Recovery in New York to better inform the public and policy makers.

Monday, November 2nd
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Marjorie Post Park
Community Room
Unqua Road, Massapequa

Register at <https://goo.gl/8THPM5>

To Speak Speaker's remarks will be limited to 3 minutes in order to allow as many people as possible to speak

CO- SPONSORED BY: Long Island Recovery Association (LIRA) and Drug Free Long Island



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