



Community-Based Recovery Supports Tele-Conferences

The following Mission, Key Objectives and Top 5 Priorities were developed with input from hundreds of participants at a series of three separate meetings. Each person in attendance was given multiple opportunities to provide direct input, based on their own personal experiences.

Mission / Purpose: Provide Recovery Leadership

Reduce the stigma of addiction and recovery by advocating for development of sustainable community-based recovery support services for individuals and families struggling with addiction and those living life in recovery.

Key Purposes/Objectives:

1. **Provide Recovery Leadership:** Organize the state around recovery; serve as a forum for ongoing dialogue; create think-tank for knowledge exchange/ideas; draw from other systems/best practices. Serve as a central resource of information about recovery, recovery support news and resources. Unified language of recovery is needed and people in/out of recovery movement need to be trained.
2. **Addiction Treated as Health Issue:** Treat addiction as a chronic, not acute, disease. Provide treatment, not incarceration. Rather than consolidating OASAS and OMH, streamline process for collaboration. Breaking down stigma is critical to creating a culture of recovery in communities across NY State.
3. **Continuum of Care:** Improve transition between different levels of care on the continuum (warm transfers) and provide better communication between the different systems.
4. **Family Recovery Support:** Addiction and recovery specific, family support services should be provided for all families to receive education, counseling, regardless of treatment status of family member.
5. **Match services model to needs:** Abolish wait times with on spot treatment 24 hours/7 days a week and delivery of care regardless of overdoses, relapses, detoxification, prior treatment or ability to pay.
6. **Greater accountability for Insurance Companies:** Insurance companies must comply with laws and be held accountable if they do not. Increased access to the full continuum of services, including recovery support services is essential for improved outcomes and greater chances of sustained recovery.

Top 5 Priorities

1. **Reduce Stigma**: Recovery must be normalized through public service campaigns (PSA's) and forums by engaging the recovery community to share positive messaging stories. Eliminating stigma is essential to the recovery process. Those in recovery should wear it as a badge of honor; not a mark of shame. Develop community-based "Shatter the Stigma" campaign to include town hall meetings, media events, letters to editors, walks/runs, school events and PSA's with outspoken people in recovery.
2. **Identify gaps in services**: Identify and plan for addressing gaps in services, including peer recovery support reflective of population and all forms of treatment. Family must be included in all services for education, support and sustaining long-term recovery. Address family education/ support insurance reimbursement and require inclusion of benefits in insurance plans. Connect persons saved by Narcan to CASAC's or Recovery Peer Advocates to engage in treatment. Hold insurers accountable- lawyers.
3. **Increased Community-Based Recovery Support**: Increase grassroots engagement of individuals and families. Build infrastructure and capacity through Recovery Community Organizations (RCO's) and Recovery Community Centers (RCC's) in every county by including all systems of care, together with peer supports, schools/colleges, jails, hospitals & families. Engage the faith-based community.
4. **Recovery Advocacy Agenda**: Targeted at policy makers and developed by individuals and families living with active addiction, living in recovery and families who have lost a family member to active addiction. Include development of recovery-oriented system of care (ROSC) and peer advocates.
5. **Education, Prevention, Treatment & Recovery**: Provide a common, recovery community voice that advocates for increased funds to support education, prevention, treatment & recovery programs/services. Educate/train physicians and nurses about disease of addiction and recovery.