

Community-Based Recovery Supports

Bi-Monthly Teleconference

March 20, 2018 – 1:00pm – 3:00pm



Facilitators: **NYC:** Stephanie Campbell **Albany:** Allison Weingarten **Rochester:** Tammy Butler-Fluitt
Ogdensburg: Felicia Dumas

Welcome: Stephanie Campbell – Executive Director, FOR-NY **1:00 pm**

Brief Introductions: (name, recovery role, affiliation, updates) **1:10 pm**

NYC: Tuesday March 27—Women in Recovery; Lunch, giveaways; special talk on stigma and women in recovery.
May 30/Bronx Recovery Talk/Lincoln Hospital

OASAS Updates:

- **Youth Clubhouses/Mini Grants:** Maria Morris-Groves **1:20 pm**
- **Access Centers, COTIs, Recovery Center, Peer Engagement Providers, Family support navigators, hospital diversion and wrap around** – Susan Brandau

March 19th 4 new youth clubhouses were announced, clubhouses in all 10 Development zones and 5 NYC boros.
24/7 Open Access Center: 10 new open access centers; 3 in existence now, 10 more to come; In 24/7 open access centers there is always a live person reachable; Susan encourages us all to go and visit sites, Sites are included in OASAS resource directory. Email Kathy Kramer to ask to be on Rob Kent’s mailing list and get important updates.
For a list of services-go to OASAS.NY.GOV- click on services, dropdown regional centers. FOR- NY also lists statewide resources on our website.

Friends of Recovery NY Updates - Community-Based Recovery Supports **1:30 pm**

- *Stand Up For Recovery Day Review and Next Steps:* Over 1000 people present; we are really focusing on passing Opioid Surcharge as a permanent funding stream. Important to contact Senators and ask them to support the surcharge before the budget passes April 1.
- Upcoming Trainings/Webinars

Our Stories Have Power; Recovery messaging training of trainers (OSHP TTT) – Wednesday, **3/28** Johnstown, Rob Constantine Recovery Community Center 1:00- 4:00- \$25, 3 OASAS/NYCB credits

Building Your RCO from the Ground Up: Wednesday, **3/28** Dutchess County 6:00-8:30 PM 230 North Road Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Science of Addiction and Recovery – Train the trainer (SOAR TTT) – Friday, **4/13** Lake Placid – Crowne Plaza Hotel - \$50 – 6 OASAS NYCB/credits

Peer Professional Supervision - PPSUP – Tuesday & Wednesday **4/24-4/25**, Plattsburg -

Community Asset Mapping – **looking for a venue for July** in North Country or the Finger lakes

Recovery Conference 2018 – Monday and Tuesday, August 20th & 21st, Albany - Wolf Road Marriott Hotel, Preconference Dance - Sunday August 19th!

Theme: The Journey to Recovery Wellness: Purpose, Home, Community & Health – email Theresa with ideas for presenters and workshops

Volunteers Needed for : 1) Program Planning Committee, 2) Marketing, 3) Sponsorship/Exhibitor (including recruiters for Silent Auction donations - Wellness themed...think big....) – email Theresa

And staffing the conference & badge/bag stuffing (pre-conference) – email Allison

ROcovery Fitness will be biking from Buffalo to Albany!

Family to Family Recovery Resource Guide (FFRRG): free downloadable from our website, **please complete the survey**

- YVM-NY Upcoming Events and Updates: YVMNY-Sober St Patrick’s Day; Drag Bingo; Women impacted by Substance Use/Mental Health “Journeys” Event at the Graham School;

Advocacy as an Ally/Family Member--Lauri Cole NYS Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare 1:45 pm

Executive Director of the NYS Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, Lauri Cole spoke about her experience as an advocate for members of the mental health and substance use disorder communities from the unique perspective of being both a family member and survivor who lost her loved one from addiction, and how she is using her experience to effectively advocate for members of the recovery community in a meaningful way.

NYS Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare now represents 100 mental health and behavioral health organizations throughout the state; The organizations each pay membership dues. The mission of the organization is access to care and continuity of care;

Lauri and her team are working day and night to ensure the opioid proposal passes because it is the best option right now for a consistent flowing stream of revenue given the current crisis. The Senate did not embrace vehicle for future money. Say to Senate—if you cannot live with the Surcharge you need to enact a permanent funding stream.

What happened to the Asset Forfeiture Fund: supposed to be permanent source of revenue for OASAS? Without overt language that designates money to OASAS, money may have found its way to General Fund.

Lauri and her team work on a federal level as well, working with Congressman Paul Tonko. There are hearings in Washington on Opioid package of bills; Lauri's organization worked on a sign on letter to end a arbitrary caps on prescribers for Medication Assisted Treatment; appropriately educated prescribers should be able to prescribe more than at the caps until further notice.

Parity @ 10 Campaign – Karla Lopez, Legal Action Center

2:15 pm

Senior Staff Attorney of Legal Action Center spoke about the Parity @ 10 campaign, new tools that have been developed to help individuals and families navigate the insurance industry and how parity enforcement is essential right to the Recovery Community. The Parity @ 10 Campaign aims for effective enforcement of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (Parity Act). Q&A to follow.

See powerpoint attached with links to educational posters as well as contact information when one feels that parity is not being followed. Karla emphasized the need to complain. Government officials think “We don't get complaints so there are no problems.” NYS Attorney General has settled complaints; they have healthcare phone line 1-800-428-9071. In complaint write “I want you to check if there are any violations to the parity law.”

Parity @ 10 wants regulators to provide proof of parity (on front end) so it does not fall on back end patients and providers. Parity @ 10 also asks for a Parity Ombudsman—idea is to have specialized place people can go when they need help accessing MHPA benefits. Legal Action Center also has a comprehensive parity guide.

Karla asked the group: What barriers are you seeing?

- Difference reimbursement rates;
- Pain versus addiction
- Copays for every visit for MHPA—some people have to come twice in one day—not the same for chemo therapy—pay a copay for a package

Would like to see If denied by hospital—get letter that says why they are denied and where they can go

Senator Ort's Bill—S1156/A.3694 requiring insurers and health plans to submit data and key metrics on compliance with parity laws

The State should educate people with their resources; Parity @ 10 will provide assistance.

Closing and Next Steps

NEXT MEETING: May 31, 2018

2:45 pm

1:00-3:00 pm