



Friends of Recovery – New York

2020 ADDICTION RECOVERY POLICY STATEMENT

Friends of Recovery – New York (FOR-NY) is a statewide Recovery Community Organization (RCO) working on behalf of millions of individuals and families in New York to educate decision makers and the general public about recovery from addiction.

Results from our recent October 22, 2019 survey at the NYS Recovery Conference, identified the following top four priorities amongst 130 respondents: (1) Housing (34% of responses); #2 Personalized Treatment and Treatment on Demand (18% of responses); #3 Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (14% of responses) and #4 Transportation (11% of responses). The remaining responses (23%) indicated Harm Reduction; Public Awareness; Employment; Mental Health; Services for Families; Self Help; Young People; Insurance Barriers; Class issues; Special Populations; Funding Shortages; Prevention Services as top needs for the recovery community. Having incorporated the survey results, below is our 2020 policy statement as the recovery community of NYS. **We call on the Governor and the NYS Legislature to take the following immediate actions to address the urgent addiction crisis in NYS:**

PRIORITY #1: HOUSING

- Housing provided along a continuum.
- Funding directed at housing for individuals in recovery from Substance Use Disorders.
- Certification of recovery homes. Housing that promotes integrity, ensures quality improvement, upholds residents' rights, is recovery-oriented, and is conducive to well-being.
- Affording individuals in early recovery a safe, supportive living environment.
- Allocating resources which create a variety of recovery residences statewide which will include and embrace those receiving Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to support their recovery in-order to meet a rapidly increasing demand.

PRIORITY #2: PERSONALIZED TREATMENT & RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES ON DEMAND

- Treatment and Recovery support services on demand and connection to local recovery communities after overdose
- Anyone in need must have 24/7 access to detox, treatment and recovery support services.
- A permanent and *comprehensive* addiction wraparound services program.
- Assessment, treatment referrals and *warm handoffs* to recovery support services must be made immediately available to help save lives.
- MAT and Harm Reduction as chosen pathways to recovery.
- Improved outcomes for those in treatment and recovery with a history of criminal justice involvement and improved treatment of those currently involved in the criminal justice system.
- Trauma informed recovery services and evidence-based treatment.

PRIORITY #3: RECOVERY ORIENTED SYSTEMS OF CARE

- ✓ Fund at least one Recovery Community Organization (RCO), Recovery Community Outreach Center (RCOC) and Youth Clubhouse in each county and ensure that at least two Certified Recovery Peer Advocates and two Certified Family Support Navigators exist in every county in NYS. **\$62 Million is needed to fund this priority.**
- ✓ Make peers available in more settings and ensure private insurance companies reimburse for peer services
- ✓ Hope in Recovery Campaign

PRIORITY #4: TRANSPORTATION

- The creation of a transportation work group and a funded pilot project to address this concern in a high priority area to be identified by recovery stakeholders.

PRIORITY #5: INCREASE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Lawsuits holding opioid companies accountable earmarked to support prevention, treatment and recovery.

1/8/2020