

# COMMUNITY-BASED RECOVERY SUPPORTS

## BI-MONTHLY TELECONFERENCE

November 21, 2019 from 1:00-3:00pm



**Facilitators:** **NYC:** Rachele Brown      **Middletown:** Caren Schwartz      **Albany:** Allison Weingarten  
**Rochester:** Carlee Hulsizer      **Long Island:** Elsie Demers      **Buffalo:** Tim Bax      **Syracuse:** Joan Spector

**Welcome:** Angelia Smith-Wilson, Executive Director – FOR-NY **1:00 pm**

**Brief Introductions:** (*name, recovery role, affiliation, updates*) **1:05 pm**

Include any new Community-Based Recovery Supports projects/initiatives in your community; Highlights from Recovery Month!

1. Albany
  2. New York City
  3. Long Island
  4. Nanuet
  5. Rochester
  6. Buffalo
  7. Syracuse
- SAMADHI- Wants to open 24/7 COTI, has launched a hotline

**OASAS Updates:** **1:15 pm**

- **Julia Fesko**- Peer Employment
  - Scholarship RFA for people going for CASAC, MSW, or mental health practitioner degree. Agency must apply on your behalf, deadline to apply 12/9. Available under procurements on the OASAS website.
  - Recovery tax Credit procurement, not for non-profits. For people in recovery who are employed, you work into 2020, for a for-profit employer that pays corporate tax. The company can receive a \$2,000 tax credit per employee in recovery. Julia is putting together a committee to get the word out about this opportunity.
  - Certification numbers, about 1300 CRPA and CRPA-P's. Exam pass rate is 83%. There have been 9 ethical complaints where those CRPAs have lost their certification. Main reason for ethical complaints- boundary violations.
  - CRPA support groups are becoming available throughout the state, please join one for peer support!
- **Susan Brandau and Marialice Ryan** – Recovery Support Services
  - OASAS officially the Office of Addiction Services and Supports, led to changes on the website as well
  - Pre-Conference Institute had about 400 attendees on Sunday
  - Every outpatient program required to employ a peer by January 1, outpatient program can subcontract with an organization for peer services. Paperwork is going to be developed in the future to assist with subcontracting.
  - Gotten feedback from CRPAs, providers, and hospitals that the 46 hours is not adequate enough to be employed in the ER. Looking for someone to contract with to develop a curriculum for peers in the ER
  - Career fair in Long Island on January 24<sup>th</sup> (tentative) 830-1 PM at Suffolk County Community College
  - OASAS funded Recovery Centers, since 2017 PES FSNs RCOCs has seen an increase, data looks great. PES and FSNs coming up with work plans for 2020. Almost double since 2017.
- **Loreen and Fred (Youth and Family Recovery Support Services?)**
  - Conference for those in NYC or close to NYC. A peer conference to look at how things are moving with peer services, concerns, 3 hour ethics training, and peer networking. You will need to register because spaces are filling up.

- Project with drug court- comprehensive training in different phases. Phase 3 for peers in drug courts, ethics, boundaries etc.
- Went from 16 recovery centers to 32 this year
- Centers planning to make themselves available to people during the holiday season especially

**Friends of Recovery-NY Updates – Community-Based Recovery Supports:**

**1:30 pm**

- CRPA Scholarships
  - Certification and testing fees applications needed tomorrow afternoon because applications are due to the NYCB by Monday, 11/25/2019!
- [Pay it forward campaign](#)- asking for donations to create more scholarships for peers to attend the NYS Recovery Conference
- Last quarterly newsletter was released- check out our website to read it!
- Best practice supervision survey is available, link to take it [here](#):
- Upcoming Trainings/Webinars
- Meeting with Commission on National and Community Service, AmeriCorps interested in partnering with Recovery Centers to offer people in recovery job training and potentially having it count towards the 500-hour internship requirement for peer professionals.
- FOR-NY 2020 Policy Statement survey follow up released: survey responses due November 30, 2019
- Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup> Pool Party to Pool our Resources! Looking for sponsors, potential exhibitors, if you know anyone that would be interested in partnering with FOR-NY please contact [pdoudoukjian@for-ny.org](mailto:pdoudoukjian@for-ny.org)
- FOR-NY 2020 Calendar of events is almost solidified, check out our tentative calendar [here](#)
- Stand Up for Recovery Day February 11, 2020
- In His Name Outreach has become FOR-NY's Western Contract
- Youth Voices Matter-New York
  - Finalizing the Youth Recovery Community Organization Toolkit
  - Expanding Youth Advisory Council
  - YVM-Canandaigua has officially launched
  - Meeting with Tompkins County Community College to discuss collegiate recovery programs

**Richard Buckman, LIRA**

Advocacy matters- thanks to advocacy efforts of the recovery community we have seen great improvements in NYS. First statewide advocacy day had 35 people, last year was the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual and had 1200 people in attendance! Next year, 2/11/2020 we are striving for even more!

**2020 Planning/Breakout Session/Report Out:**

**2:00 pm**

***Friends of Recovery New York is Planning our 2020 Policy Statement and we need your input!***

***Take our survey! Text RECOVERY2020 to 518-217-4646***

***Results needed by 11/30/2020***

1. Appoint a facilitator, note taker and reporter
2. Discussion Points:
  - Review Policy Survey Results and Statement. Does the Draft Statement reflect the policy survey results?
  - **Middletown:** More clarification on priority 3. Create committee for transportation
  - Erie: Old facilities, schools, not being utilized. Housing is available, but money is needed. Only 2 detox facilities. People are turned away a lot because there are no beds available. Need more detox facilities. Move funding from priority 5 up to priority 3. Transportation crucial for everyone in early recovery.
  - **NYC:** Housing- challenge would be that people are abstinent, some on MAT, harm reduction would be a difficult situation. In the vetting process, operators must have a high level of integrity. Don't want strict

standards- but some sort of standards has to be in place. Ensure that people have options of which location they will live.

- **Syracuse:** Housing- MAT housing important, dual-diagnosis housing. If someone is recovery and coming out of prison, has PTSD. Location is important, sometimes Community Residences aren't placed in the best location. Peers in halfway houses. Housing for people waiting to be accepted into an inpatient program. Treatment access and connection to recovery after someone overdoses- connect them to services, groups etc. Formal referral after Narcan so people connect to services. Increasing training for first responders in general. ROSC- RCOCs, sustainability! Transportation and increased funding is important.
- **Long Island:** Housing- big deal on LI due to high property tax. OASAS 8-19? Legislation. Funding being directed towards housing, maybe from SOR money, instead of just treatment providers. Encourage nonprofits that provide SUD services, or churches, if they're willing to make real estate available for housing because they avoid property tax. Mobile units- increased access to MAT. Two most glaring hurdles with mobile units- prescriber availability, some prescribers still won't write MAT, removal of prior authorization for MAT through insurance. Priority #3- change language, we need treatment AND RECOVERY services on demand. Sustainability of RCOs and RCOCs. RCOs should be able to bill directly to Medicaid for services they provide through peers and not just through a clinical organization. Transportation- pilot project in high priority area, brainstorm where to launch it. Add to #5- make sure that penalties are maximized.
- **Rochester:** Housing- funding transitional housing. Treatment- access to MAT. Self-directed service for transportation.
- **Albany:** fostering people in need of housing in recovery. Keep policy statement simple- language needs to be clear and precise. Bottom-line is important to legislatures, if we can show them data to prove efficacy of recovery and \$\$ saving, legislation will be more likely to approve. Focus on foreclosure properties to be used for housing. Housing needs to be safe, supportive, and longer-term. #2 MAT and HR should be part of the conversation. Transportation- Uber, Dept. of health could potentially become tied in like how transportation is provided for Medicaid. Create certification for peers to be able to provide transportation services.

**Closing and Next Steps**

**2:55 pm**

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 23, 2020 from 1:00-3:00 pm**