

# COMMUNITY-BASED RECOVERY SUPPORTS

Now Monthly TELECONFERENCE

April 16, 2020 from 1:00-3:00pm



**Facilitators:** Angelia Smith- Wilson and Allison Weingarten

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

**1:00 pm**

**Introductions:** *(name, recovery role, affiliation, updates)*

**1:05 pm**

Use your organization's logo as your profile picture on zoom and introduce yourself in the zoom instant messaging feature!

**OASAS Updates:**

**1:15 pm**

**OASAS Deputy Counsel – Trisha Schell-Guy**

- NYS PAUSE extended to May 15<sup>th</sup>
- Face masks are now mandatory- remind peers that they must use face masks, and employers must provide them
- OASAS has masks and supplies ready for distribution to send to treatment providers
- COTIs have been amazing, offering to distribute supplies
- Article 7 Budget bill passed which expands on telepractice statewide and did include reference to OASAS and OMH. Current situation has really highlighted the need for telepractice.

**Associate Commissioner - Pat Lincourt**

- Shared appreciation for all recovery professionals rising to the occasion
- More trauma series workshops are to come. The next one will discuss grief and loss and finding meaning.

**NYS Ombuds Program - Stephanie Campbell**

- CHAMP went virtual, still taking calls every day. Haven't seen an increase in the amount of calls, however they have been spending more time on the calls due to complications that have come up
- Working with OMH to help get training curriculum for emotional support line for COVID-19.
- OASAS has shared social media campaigns and icons, please share!
- If you have difficulty accessing care, please call CHAMP!
- People can now receive MAT through telehealth

Julia Fesko- Peer Employment

Susan Brandau and Marialice Ryan – Peer Integration Team

- Partnership with University at Buffalo- identifying trauma and offering office hours targeting groups, hosted one for peers. Next workshop discusses grief and loss. Registration is required beforehand. [Insert link to information](#)
- Working with DOL to help individuals with unemployment
- Lifeline assurance- free mobile phones with unlimited minutes and increased gigabytes. Working to identify if staff from T-mobile can help people receive these phones.
- Alumni Association meeting that is usually monthly has been moved to every Friday 6 – 8:00 PM. Reach out to Willie Townes for information- [Willie.Townes@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:Willie.Townes@oasas.ny.gov)
- Moved family Support Navigator WebEx meetings to monthly instead of bi-monthly contact Marialice for information [Marialice.Ryan@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:Marialice.Ryan@oasas.ny.gov)

Lureen McNeil and Fred Hodges – Bureau of Recovery Services

- Lifeline assurance program- if you need assistance applying to the program please contact Lureen McNeil [Lureen.McNeil@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:Lureen.McNeil@oasas.ny.gov)

### ASAP/New York Certification Board Updates

1:30 pm

John Coppola and Kyle Plaske

- National council is offering robust resources to its members.
- Self-care and wellness were identified as the most needed, anything we can do to distribute resources on this is needed
- Distressing- our people on the frontlines not identified as critical and needing resources. Thankful to OASAS for pushing that we are essential.
- ASAP Daily Briefing- 7 days a week, over 50 participants a day. Good way to connect with people throughout the state. 10:30 AM Call in number 855 852 2882 bridge 1 code 1379
- Email address [coronahelpline@asapnys.org](mailto:coronahelpline@asapnys.org) for any questions, concerns, resources, positive stories to share
- Email [kplaske@asapnys.org](mailto:kplaske@asapnys.org) to be added to ASAP's circulation email

Ruth Riddick, New York Certification Board [rriddick@asapnys.org](mailto:rriddick@asapnys.org)

- If you're concerned about your certification status at this time, check it out on their website: <http://www.asapnys.org/ny-certification-board/> . Certification verification tool allows you to check status. This will show your current expiration date.
- NYCB has now extended expiration of certification for 90 days.
- Continuing to process new applications. Finalizing online application process to make them 100% usable online. Electronic signatures will be accepted so that you don't have to print out the papers. Forms will be available next week.
- If you are eligible for full CRPA, you will be awarded CRPA-P to be Medicaid billable and lasts 24 months because exams are not currently taking place.
- Full details of these initiatives are available on NYCB's website. <http://www.asapnys.org/ny-certification-board/>
- NYCB implemented temporary online training approval for both RCA and Ethics trainings. Information for trainers on how to apply is also available online, there is no fee associated. <http://www.asapnys.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ASAP-NYCB.online-training.notice.3-27-2020.pdf>
- Trainers approved to deliver online trainings must submit it via FOR-NY's trainings page.
- Continuing development of CRPA-Youth, they are in-person trainings only so they are currently suspended.

### Legislative Updates

1:45 pm

Senator Peter Harcham, Chair of Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

- Don't use this as a time to isolate even though we are apart. Join Zoom meetings, stay connected!
- Need to treat our people like frontline workers because they are frontline workers. Conference call with Governor's office to discuss this is later today
- Need discussion around federal stimulus bill- reach out to federal delegation in NYS that behavioral health needs to be integral part of any federal stimulus
- Budget- Fortunately, OASAS and OMH budget were relatively flat, no major cuts. Didn't get 3 for 5 or additional 10 million per year that we wanted.
- No prior authorization for MAT was negotiated and passed, wasn't perfect but happy to get it passed
- Question- Have you seen OASAS departmental bill on recovery housing? Answer- No, I have not seen it in the last four weeks but will review.

Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal, Chair of Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

- No person in need of MAT will struggle to get it due to prior authorizations
- NYS OASAS CHAMP Fund was passed
- Future of budget uncertain
- Federal gov't relaxed standards on receiving MAT
- Asked Governor to issue executive order so that our providers receive same protections as other providers

- Concerned about increase in overdoses
- Question- status update on recovery housing? Has been working on issue for a long time and will review the OASAS departmental bill

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

**2:00 pm**

**Communications/Resource Sharing:**

- See our updated COVID-19 page on our website <https://for-ny.org/covid-19-information/>
- Sending out regular email information with online events and resources (visit our website, bottom right to subscribe to our mailing list)

**Training and Education/CRPA Scholarships:**

**Youth Voices Matter-New York:**

- Sending out a weekly newsletter now – including information on changes in programming for youth clubhouses and other information pertinent to young people in recovery and their families;
- Youth Recovery Program Specialists Lori Teaney and Carlee Hulsizer are hosting a SMART Recovery meeting on Tuesday April 21, 2020 at 7:00pm

**Discussion of Preliminary Results from Survey**

**2:15 pm**

**COVID-19 Impact on Recovery Community Organizations**

Brief highlights (more information to be included in final report)

- Good mix of suburban, rural, urban
- Most respondents were over 30 years of age, white, and affiliated with RCO, a member of the recovery community (self identified person in recovery or family member)
- 90% using online meeting format
- RCO Participation- 43% of respondents are maintain participants, 46% losing participants, 11% gained participants: Our community is seeing loss of participation

Angelia

- Important to us to capture the information and see what the recovery community needs
- We will continue collecting data
- We must continue to stay relevant in the state budget because our services are essential
- We will be sending out the finalized information collected soon

**Closing and Next Steps**

**2:55 pm**

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 21, 2020 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM Via Zoom, details to follow**