

# COMMUNITY-BASED RECOVERY SUPPORTS

## Summer Edition

### MONTHLY TELECONFERENCE

August 20, 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**

Pat Lincourt - Associate Commissioner

- Ability for peers to bill via telehealth is contingent on the executive order which runs until September 7<sup>th</sup>. Legal team is working to get a long-term solution to this.
- SOR 2 RFA to be out by next week- The RFA will take a regional approach in order to integrate the service delivery.

Susan Brandau - Peer Integration Team

- Working with state opioid response and 5 hospitals, looking at induction and handoff to the peers. Developing pilot training for Peers in the ED.
- Bureau is still offering technical assistance for tele practice. They can talk to organizations about the scope of practice for a peer while being a part of the clinical team.
- Beginning to look at different strategies for what does peer engagement look like. Would like to be able to showcase and model this, maybe like treatment in a box. Additionally, what does peer supervision look like?
- Want to disseminate a peer survey.
- Alumni Association Meetings- August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Alumni Association Contact Willie Townes Alumni Coordinator for more details [Willie.Townes@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:Willie.Townes@oasas.ny.gov) or (646)-728-4780

Lureen McNeil - Bureau of Recovery Services

- Conducted a research project the last few months, getting ready to pilot a tool for centers to have better engagement and realize what it is that engages a person in the center in recovery in the first 6 months. Will be doing 4 focus groups in NY and just completed one in Detroit.
- Focused on sustainability including hosting the recovery summit. Each recovery center is doing an assessment and a plan for sustainability.
- Conducted a survey on the value of men in recovery and will be analyzing and then presenting the results.
- September 3, next RIT meeting - 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM discussing the different pathways to recovery.

**FOR-NY Social Justice Recovery Policy**

**1:45 pm**

*Laura Elliott-Engel Recovery Advocacy Award Call for Nominations*

- FOR-NY Co-Founder and Past President, Laura Elliott-Engel, embodied the phrase "Recovery Warrior" by relentlessly standing up for individuals and families whose lives had been impacted by addiction to alcohol and other drugs. Thanks to the generous support from Laura's family, we'll be presenting **ONE recipient with a \$1,000 cash award** during the conference. View the information below for criteria and to nominate a Recovery Warrior today!

- Criteria-
  - Demonstrated success in addiction recovery advocacy at the local, state and/or national level.
  - Demonstrated significant impact in the addiction recovery community including efforts to erase the stigma of addiction and the discrimination it causes.
  - Recognized as a role model for recovery and for recovery advocacy by exemplifying compassion and steadfast leadership.
  - Effective and outspoken grassroots addiction recovery advocate on behalf of both individuals and families.
- \*FOR-NY board and staff are not eligible to receive the Laura Elliott-Engel Award.
- Award winner will be announced in the Fall of 2020.
- **Nominate via this link-** <http://app.donorview.com/9ZWg8>

**CHAMP Presentation:** Tom Burke, Save the Michaels of the World, Inc.

**1:55 pm**

716-984-8375, [T.Burke@savethemichaels.org](mailto:T.Burke@savethemichaels.org).

- New York State's Community Health Access to Addiction & Mental Healthcare Project
- Tom works for Save the Michaels
- CHAMP assists with insurance questions and problems for those with substance use and mental health disorders
- Access to care is another important part of CHAMP. For Medicare sometimes, they say that you need to be denied by in network providers before going to out of network providers to get access to MAT, but CHAMP can help with this.
- CHAMP can also be a resource broker.
- Digital brochure available here- <https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2019/07/CHAMP-Brochure.pdf>
- Questions
  - In Manhattan, some people that are undocumented come in looking for help, how can we help them? Answer- they can get access to emergency Medicaid, but the rest of the process can be difficult. Tom will send Luis the Manhattan CHAMP representative's contact information.
  - How to help people with Medicaid restriction- restrictions make it so that people can only be able to go to 1 primary care physician, 1 hospital, 1 pharmacy. Answer- CHAMP can help getting restriction lifted and changed but if this person needs emergency care then they can still go to any provider.
  - 1 person had insurance and went to get Medicaid, but it wouldn't kick in until the 1<sup>st</sup> so he had a gap and then had to pay a co-pay of \$3,000 but Medicaid wouldn't reimburse. Answer- Medicaid is supposed to pay medical bills the 3 months before the approval date, file a case and call CHAMP.

### **Legislative Updates /Advocacy Needs Discussion**

**2:15 pm**

Senator Pete Harckham, Chair of Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

- It looks like the 30% cut will be decreased to 20%, but this is still too high. Will continue to fight for no cuts.

Nick Guile, Legislative Aide, Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal, Chair of Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

- Had 2 bills completed regarding Naloxone with Harckham's office. Deadline for them to be signed into law is approaching.
- First one- Public accommodations would be able to carry and administer Naloxone, adding bars, restaurants, retail stores. Also includes the protection that there is no liability.
- Second- Naloxone discrimination and life insurance policies. Nurses that carried naloxone would have it show up on their current medications list and their premiums and costs would increase. This would make it so that can no longer happen.
- Urged Governor's office to reduce and get rid of the impending 30% cut, it appears the cuts will decrease but some will still occur, so Harckham and Rosenthal will still be advocating for NO cuts.
- Propose implementing an aggressive tax on billionaires.
- Waiting to find out when they will be returning to session.

Therese Daly, Director of Correspondence, Office of Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

- NYS is currently at a halt until we get word from the Federal government

- Trying to raise revenue and get bills pushed

Gil Ruiz, Legislative Assistant, Office of United States Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

- Saw some movement on Monday with the draft of the HEALS act
- Hopefully when congress is back in session there will be more development the first and second week of September
- Gillibrand did issue a letter asking for more funding for addiction services
- Questions-
  - Anything else we can do to help support you? Answer- thinking critically about what to focus on next year. One area focusing on is the addiction workforce, money, training, peer support, continuing medical education etc.

#### **September 2020 Recovery Month Plans**

**2:45 pm**

- September 15<sup>th</sup> Virtual Voter Registration Drive, rep. from NY Civil Liberties Union will be helping to answer any questions. Two sessions: 12:00 – 1:30 PM or 5:00 – 6:00 PM. Register here- <https://app.donorview.com/xKjvj>
- September 10<sup>th</sup> Virtual Recovery Month Paint Night 5:00 – 7:00 PM, see registration link for more information! <https://app.donorview.com/OPmlR>

#### **Closing and Next Steps**

**2:55pm**

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 24, 2020 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**