



# Friends of Recovery – New York

## 2022 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 2021 survey which originated at the NYS Recovery Conference, re-confirmed the following top four identified priorities from our 2020 and 2021 Policy Statements: #1 Housing; #2 Personalized Treatment and Treatment on Demand; #3 Recovery Oriented Systems of Care; and #4 Transportation. The survey also validated a policy position on racial justice as well as a public health response to COVID-19 which is inclusive of the Recovery Community. Having incorporated the survey results, below is our 2022 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:**

### COVID-19

All COVID-19 Public Health decisions must be made in collaboration with the recovery community and must show concern for those struggling with and those in recovery from Substance Use Disorder. Policies must reflect those needs.

### RACIAL JUSTICE

The Recovery Community is committed to ensuring that “Nothing About Us Without Us” is inclusive of black, Indigenous and people of color and our policy initiatives must reflect this.

### 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

- ✓ Create a permanent funding model to ensure 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 expansion 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

- Lawsuit funding distribution must support prevention, treatment harm reduction and recovery and recovery community **MUST** be at the table.