



Program At A Glance



NYS Recovery Conference 2026 — Program at a Glance

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

1:00 PM — SPONSOR SET UP

2:00 PM — REGISTRATION

4:00 PM — SERVICE PROJECT DROP OFF

5:00 PM — DINNER ON YOUR OWN

5:30-6:30 PM — OPENING RECEPTION W/ LITE REFRESHMENTS
DR. ANGELIA SMITH-WILSON

6:30-7:30 PM —

- REGIONAL MEET UPS
- TURNING PAIN INTO PURPOSE: FOUR WOMEN, FOUR PATHS, ONE JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF AND HEALING (PATRICIA OSTERHOUDT, VICTORIA METZ, THERESA KNORR)



NYS Recovery Conference 2026 — Program at a Glance

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

7:00-7:30 AM — MORNING MOVEMENT

TAI CHI 4 RECOVERY - EMOTION REGULATION THROUGH MOVEMENT
THERESA KNORR

8:00 AM — SPONSOR SET UP/REGISTRATION

8:00-8:45 AM — BREAKFAST

9:00-10:00 AM — WELCOME AND PLENARY 1
DR. ADAM VIERA, BRENDA HARRIS-COLLINS

10:00-10:30 AM — NETWORKING

10:30-11:30 AM — BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FAMILIES ON THE FRONT LINES: EXPANDING RECOVERY SUPPORT BEYOND
THE TREATMENT SYSTEM IN NYS
MEG MURRAY, JUDY MOFFITT, BARB KLEIN, MARCELA SALERNO

BELONGING IN RECOVERY: BUILDING LGBTQ+ INCLUSIVE AND RECOVERY
READY COMMUNITIES ACROSS NEW YORK STATE
ALEXI MIKAELSON

BEYOND THE REFERRAL: TURNING CONNECTIONS INTO RECOVERY
HOW PEER SERVICES NAMI STIGMA FREE WORKPLACE
JAMES NORTON

BUILD STRONG LINKAGES ACROSS HOSPITALS, COURTS, JAILS, AND
COMMUNITIES- CATHIE CAMPBELL, LISA CLARK, ART MAEDL, TIM VAN
VALKENBURG, DESTINI MICHALAK, CARLA KENNEY



NYS Recovery Conference 2026 — Program at a Glance

11:30 AM-12:00 PM — NETWORKING

12:00-1:00 PM — LUNCH/FAMILIES OF LOSS

1:00-1:30 PM — NETWORKING

1:30-2:30 PM — BREAKOUT SESSIONS

BOARD RECRUITMENT FOR A RECOVERY-READY ORGANIZATION
DR. ANGELIA SMITH-WILSON

BEYOND THE CERTIFICATE: PREPARING PEER PROFESSIONALS FOR THE
REALITY OF THE WORK= AMANDA TOAL

YOUTH VOICES MATTER PEER LEADERS: ON COMBATING YOUTH ISOLATION-
ELIJAH PLUMMER, MORGAN THOMPSON

THE REAL WORK OF SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY FRIENDLY WORKPLACES:
VOICES FROM THE TRENCHES - JOEL BENNETT, DEBORAH KOIVULA, SCOTT
SHERWOOD, KYLE ZIMMER, ELIZA ZARKA- NATIONAL RECOVERY FRIENDLY
WORKPLACE INSTITUTE

2:45-3:45 PM — WORKFORCE LEADERSHIP KEYNOTE:
BUILDING A NEW YORK STATE RECOVERY READY LEADERSHIP
WORKFORCE- MICHAEL KING

4:00-5:00 PM — BREAKOUT SESSIONS
ADVOCACY & POLICY UPDATE: ADVANCING RECOVERY THROUGH STATE
AND FEDERAL ACTION LAC & CHRIS ASSINI

BUILDING A HEALTHY WORKPLACE CULTURE: WHY ORGANIZATIONAL
WELLNESS MATTERS- THERESA KNORR, AMY FAHEY, DAN OUELLETTE

CREATING RECOVERY PATHWAYS FOR YOUNG ADULTS: LESSONS LEARNED
FROM NEW YORK'S YOUNG ADULT RECOVERY RESIDENCE MODELS-
BRENDA HARRIS-COLLINS, JEFFREY STRAUSS, RYAN KISER, LEIGH
STEVENS, JERAD STEVENS, WILL DENNIS

WHY INCLUDING GAMBLING SERVICES IS NECESSARY TO CREATE A
RECOVERY READY NYS - RACHEL LAURIA

5:00-5:30 PM — NETWORKING



NYS Recovery Conference 2026 — Program at a Glance

5:00-5:30 PM — NETWORKING

5:30 PM — DINNER ON YOUR OWN

8:00-9:00 PM — MUTUAL AID

MUTUAL AID GA
MIKE M.

MUTUAL AID AA
MARIALICE R.

MUTUAL AID NA
SANDY M.

MUTUAL AID ONE RECOVERY
DENISE A.



NYS Recovery Conference 2026 — Program at a Glance

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

7:00-7:30 AM — MORNING MOVEMENT

TAI CHI 4 RECOVERY - EMOTION REGULATION THROUGH MOVEMENT
THERESA KNORR

8:00-8:45 AM — BREAKFAST

9:00-10:00 AM — WELCOME AND PLENARY 3

CROSS SYSTEMS COLLABORATION KEYNOTE: FROM DESPAIR TO PURPOSE A
GAMBLING RECOVERY STORY AND THE POWER OF PEER SUPPORT

BUILDING RECOVERY READY SYSTEMS FOR GAMBLING HARM IN NEW YORK
SCOTT MEYER - 25 MINUTES

10:00-10:30 AM — NETWORKING

10:30-11:30 AM — BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SAFE HOUSING SAVES LIVES- JERAD STEVENS, LEIGH STEVENS, VAN SMITH

BUILDING RECOVERY-READY COMMUNITIES THROUGH PEER AND FAMILY
SUPPORT- SHEVANIE CLARK

A CRITICAL BRIDGE FROM TREATMENT TO SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY:
ALUMNI LEADERS - WILVENA GORDON

11:30 AM-12:00 PM — NETWORKING

12:00-12:45 PM — LUNCH

12:30-2:00 PM — CLOSING REMARKS AND PLENARY 4

UNDERSTANDING THE NO HARM IN THE HARM REDUCTION APPROACH-
EMMA FABIAN

EVENT/ARTS FESTIVAL (SLIDE SHOW)

BAG DISTRIBUTION (COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT)