

# August 2024

## Systems Engagement Opportunities

Greetings! This virtual document is to promote upcoming events and opportunities taking place across New York State that relate to youth (12-17 aged), young adults (18-29 aged), and peers (persons with lived experience navigating systems and services).

**Events:** In person or virtual meetings. Some events include conferences, trainings, summits, forums, community-based initiatives, etc.

**Opportunities:** Requires limited or ongoing engagement. Some opportunities include councils, advisory boards, research participants, feedback, surveys, etc.

### Opportunity:

The Problem Gambling Resource Center is reaching out to local community stakeholders and leaders to learn more about our Community Readiness levels related to gambling harm. **If you would please take a moment to review the survey link below, it would be greatly appreciated.** Learning more about our community readiness helps us improve services and supports we can offer to build capacity, and “move the needle” in our efforts related to gambling.

**Survey Link Here:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PG3XLCY>

**Your input is valuable to this project, and we hope you can take a few minutes now to complete the survey. Your response will be completely anonymous.**

If you would prefer to answer these questions via phone or through an online meeting, I would be happy to set that up. We are asking that you complete this survey **no later than September 6<sup>th</sup>**.

If you have any questions, need more information about gambling services available, or ideas how we can help improve gambling services offered, please don't hesitate to reach out.

**Thank you,**

**Jessica McCarthy**

Central Problem Gambling Resource Center

Team Leader

[Central Problem Gambling Resource Center](#)

Phone: 518-491-6852

**Opportunity:**

OPWDD currently has a contract with the American Institutes for Research to conduct an independent evaluation of the Care Coordination program. The goal of the evaluation is to learn what parts of the program are working well and what areas could be improved.

Those of you who interact on a regular basis with Care Coordination Organizations and care managers can help us understand how we can strengthen care management going forward. The online survey will be open until August 26, 2024.

To participate in the survey visit:

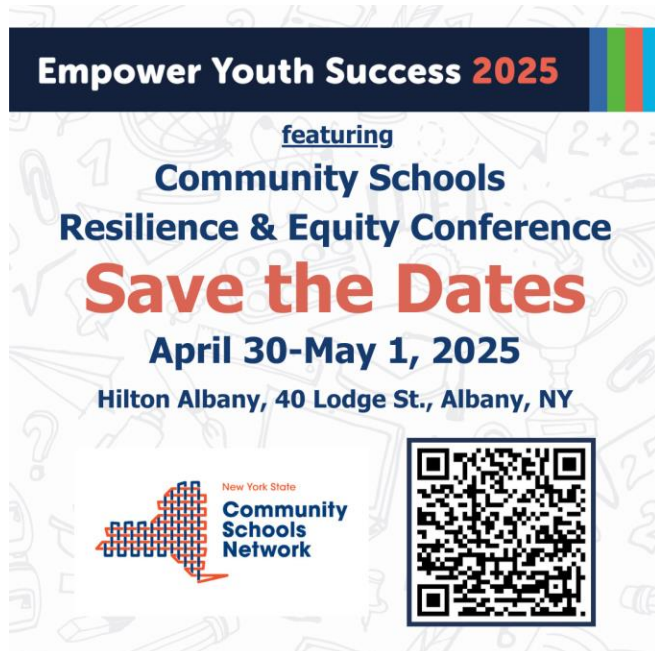
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7823011/OPWDDCareCoordinationSurvey>

If you are viewing the survey on a mobile device, click the purple arrow at the bottom of the page to move through the survey.

To view the survey in a language other than English, go to the upper righthand corner of the survey and select the globe icon to view the available languages.

Learn more about this project at <https://opwdd.ny.gov/american-rescue-plan-act-arpa>.

**Event:** Save the Date for Empower Youth Success 2025 featuring the NYS Community Schools Resilience & Equity Conference from April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup> in Albany, NY. This event welcomes youth, young adults, parents, caregivers, providers, school faculty and staff, and youth-serving community-based organizations.



**Event:** Save the Date Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

The CNY Regional Interagency Technical Assistance Team (RiTAT) is hosting a FREE training in collaboration with Mica Gonzalez to address healing spaces for families and youth through trauma-informed care. Stay tuned for more information on how to register.

# Training Opportunity!

**FRIDAY,  
DECEMBER**

**1**

**9AM-  
11:30AM**

## **IGNITING THE SPARK: BECOMING HEALING SPACES FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES THROUGH TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE**

with Mica Gonzalez

**FREE WEBINAR**

### About the Training:

CNY Regional Interagency Technical Assistance Team (RiTAT) will host this training as part of their continued work toward authentically serving children, youth, and families, multi-county advocacy organizations, and family and youth partners. Attendees will gain knowledge and skills in the following ways:

- Learn Trauma-Informed Care principles
- Gain insight into how to strategically navigate conversations to best facilitate resiliency
- Learn about "Glimmers," "Sparks," and other modalities that foster resilience

### About the Trainer:

Longtime CNY RiTAT supporter, current Bereavement Counselor, and MSW Candidate Mica Gonzalez has a committed passion for addressing youth and family trauma. Mica's unique perspective and experience in working with youth, families and agencies to address topics have allowed her to expand the definition of trauma and how we address it. Mica has facilitated other RiTAT trainings, including topics on youth and family voice, LGBTQ+ competency, and most recently, Got Loss?

### Opportunity:

In support of the [Daniel's Law Task Force](#) and the State of New York, [NYSTEC](#) is asking community members with experience contacting crisis services for their feedback and opinions.

Two surveys were previously distributed to gather information on crisis services from *adults* who have experienced a behavioral health crisis or supported another person through one. These surveys remain open. **In addition, two new surveys, also linked below, have been created to ask about the experiences of youth who used mental health crisis services and the people who supported youth during the crisis.**

#### **Links to surveys for adults:**

- *Person who experienced the behavioral health crisis:*  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WithLivedExperience>
- *Person who supported another through a behavioral health crisis:*  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SocialSupports>

***The deadline for filling out the surveys has been extended to July 31, 2024.***

#### **Links to surveys for youth:**

- *Person who experienced the behavioral health crisis:*  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YouthLivedExperience>
- *Person who supported another through a behavioral health crisis:*  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YouthSocialSupports>

***The deadline for filling out the surveys for youth is August 7, 2024.***

We kindly ask that you complete the survey(s) that may apply to you, and please share with your contacts and networks if the surveys may be relevant to them. The information gathered from the surveys will remain anonymous and will be aggregated and shared with the Task Force to inform their final report and recommendations.

***Each survey is available **by request** in the following languages – Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Yiddish, Bengali, Korean, Haitian Creole, Italian, Arabic, Polish, French, and Urdu.***

If you have any questions on the surveys, please contact Anica Maggard ([amaggard@nystec.com](mailto:amaggard@nystec.com)).

We thank you in advance for your support of the Daniel's Law Task Force!

#### **Opportunity & Event:**

It is that time of year again where we are looking for individuals/agencies to table at our upcoming SPED (Suicide Prevention & Education) Talk event!

The Suicide Prevention Team at the Syracuse VA Medical Center and the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) at Syracuse University are teaming up to host the third annual SPed Talks for Suicide Prevention education on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 3:30pm to 7:30pm at the National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC) at the Daniel and Gayle D'Aniello Building (Syracuse University).

Please utilize the [link here](#) to learn more about the event and/or to register to attend. If you are interested in tabling at the event, please use the [link here](#) to assist you with registering for a table.

### **Event:**

Contact Community Services invites you to attend the first annual CNY Youth Mental Health Summit. The Summit is a 1-day event that will bring together leading experts, local high school students, and adults who work with youth to learn, share, and gain actionable insights to address youth mental health.

- **When:** Friday, October 25, 2024, 8 AM - 3:30 PM
- **Where:** DoubleTree by Hilton, East Syracuse, NY
- **Who should attend:** Educators, mental health professionals, healthcare providers, social workers, and youth organization leaders in Central New York
- **Cost:** \$125 - or \$100 with early bird discount available through 8/25/24

**Learn more and register at**

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/contactcommunityservices/1233329>.

### **Opportunity & Events:** September 2024 to February 2025

The Rutgers Juvenile Justice and Youth Development Certificate Program is designed to address the complex demands of the juvenile justice system and to equip professionals with the skills and knowledge necessary to work effectively with justice-involved youth and their families. To learn more about this series and certifications, please see the link here:

[JJYD FW24.pdf \(rutgers.edu\)](#)

**Event:** August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, from 11:00am to 12:00pm



This virtual conference is open to all K-12 education professionals – classroom teachers, administrators, school-related professionals, and community-based organizations working with and in school settings. This year's Summer Academy will offer multiple opportunities to engage with mental health topics that impact student wellness, academic achievement, and social connectedness, including a **Fireside Chat with NYS Education Department Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa and NYS Office of Mental Health Commissioner Dr. Ann Marie T. Sullivan.**



Join us for a Fireside Chat with NYS Education Department NYS Education Department Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa and NYS Office of Mental Health Commissioner Dr. Ann Marie T. Sullivan. We will discuss current trends in youth mental health, how schools are working with community partners to support youth and their families, and what else we can do to support our youth amidst this youth mental health crisis.



NYS Education Department  
Commissioner  
Dr. Betty A. Rosa



NYS Office of Mental Health  
Commissioner  
Dr. Ann Marie T. Sullivan



Moderator  
MHANYS CEO  
Glenn Liebman



Moderator  
SMHRTC Director  
Renee L. Rider



Register now!



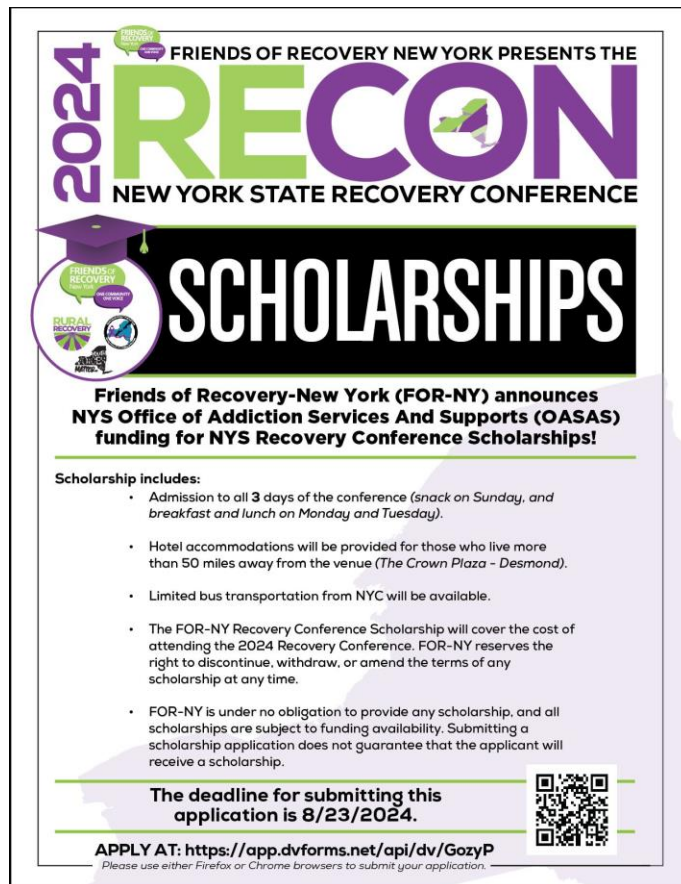
**Opportunity:**

[Temple University Collaborative on Community Inclusion](#) is recruiting young adults who have received a mental health diagnosis for a new study.

To participate in the survey, learn more through the link here: <https://lnkd.in/ecvp3tHF>

**Opportunity & Event:** RECON 2024 Scholarship Applications Deadline August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Scholarships for the 2024 NYS Recovery are available! Friends of Recovery-New York (FOR-NY) announces NYS Office of Addiction Services And Supports (OASAS) funding for NYS Recovery Conference Scholarships! Apply today at <https://loom.ly/n-lki7g>



The poster is for the 2024 RECON New York State Recovery Conference. It features a purple and green color scheme. At the top, it says "FRIENDS OF RECOVERY NEW YORK PRESENTS THE 2024 RECON NEW YORK STATE RECOVERY CONFERENCE". Below this, a large black box contains the word "SCHOLARSHIPS" in white. To the left of this box is a circular logo with a graduation cap and the words "FRIENDS OF RECOVERY NEW YORK" and "RECOVERY". Below the "SCHOLARSHIPS" box, it says "Friends of Recovery-New York (FOR-NY) announces NYS Office of Addiction Services And Supports (OASAS) funding for NYS Recovery Conference Scholarships!". A list of scholarship details follows, including admission to the conference, hotel accommodations, and bus transportation. At the bottom, it states the deadline for submitting the application is 8/23/2024 and provides the application link: <https://app.dvforms.net/api/dv/GozyP>. A QR code is also present in the bottom right corner.

**2024 RECON**  
FRIENDS OF RECOVERY NEW YORK PRESENTS THE  
NEW YORK STATE RECOVERY CONFERENCE

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Friends of Recovery-New York (FOR-NY) announces  
NYS Office of Addiction Services And Supports (OASAS)  
funding for NYS Recovery Conference Scholarships!**

**Scholarship includes:**

- Admission to all 3 days of the conference (snack on Sunday, and breakfast and lunch on Monday and Tuesday).
- Hotel accommodations will be provided for those who live more than 50 miles away from the venue (The Crown Plaza - Desmond).
- Limited bus transportation from NYC will be available.
- The FOR-NY Recovery Conference Scholarship will cover the cost of attending the 2024 Recovery Conference. FOR-NY reserves the right to discontinue, withdraw, or amend the terms of any scholarship at any time.
- FOR-NY is under no obligation to provide any scholarship, and all scholarships are subject to funding availability. Submitting a scholarship application does not guarantee that the applicant will receive a scholarship.

**The deadline for submitting this application is 8/23/2024.**

**APPLY AT: <https://app.dvforms.net/api/dv/GozyP>**  
Please use either Firefox or Chrome browsers to submit your application.

**Event:** August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

There's still time to register for the [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#)'s upcoming Talk Save Lives webinar! It's a great opportunity to learn the common risk factors for [hashtag#suicide](#), how to spot the warning signs in others, and practical examples for how to engage in critical conversations and connect to resources.

Learn more and register - <https://lnkd.in/e7BJGt8g>





AFSP's signature education program, Talk Saves Lives: *An Introduction to Suicide Prevention*, provides participants with life-saving knowledge and confidence critical to preventing suicide.

This presentation will cover what we know about this leading cause of death, the most up-to-date research on prevention, and what we can all do to help save lives.

Participants will learn the common risk factors for suicide, how to spot the warning signs in others, and practical examples for how to engage in critical conversations and connect to resources.

Join us to learn how to keep ourselves, our loved ones and those in our community safe. When it comes to suicide prevention – talk truly can help to save lives.

Register



#### Date

August 21, 2024

#### Time

10:00-11:30 am OR 6:30-8:00 pm

#### Location

Virtual

#### Register today!

<https://nytsl82124.attendease.com/>

#### Questions?

Missy Stolfi, [mstolfi@afsp.org](mailto:mstolfi@afsp.org)  
Karen Heisig, [kheisig@afsp.org](mailto:kheisig@afsp.org)

Brought to you by funds raised by  
the Out of the Darkness  
Community Walks! Find your walk  
at [afsp.org/oofd](https://afsp.org/oofd)

[afsp.org/TalkSavesLives](https://afsp.org/TalkSavesLives)



## Opportunity:

Want to help your community establish a community-based response program that provides immediate assistance to people experiencing mental illnesses, substance use, and homelessness, or who may need other poverty-related support and de-escalation of minor disputes?

Community responder programs are emerging across the country as the solution for these issues. Comprised of multidisciplinary professionals and members of your community trained to provide immediate assistance to people in need, these teams also work to connect people to essential services such as health care, mental health support, shelter, or basic living items.

The CSG Justice Center's Expanding First Response toolkit hosts an assessment tool, now available in Spanish, that can help you determine what your community needs to establish and sustain a local community responder program. After you complete the assessment, you will receive a summary of your results and tips to help your community build, implement, and sustain a community responder program today!

Learn more about the CSG Justice Center's #ExpandingFirstResponse toolkit and complete the assessment tool: <https://lnkd.in/ewCGrifY>

[Assessment Tool \(English\) - CSG Justice Center](#)

**Event:** Virtual on August 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

**Advancing Peer Support & Lived Experience Leadership**  
**2024 UPWARD SPIRAL SUMMER SERIES**

This webinar series is dedicated to bringing together the peer support workforce to connect, learn from one another, and introduce and discuss critical perspectives to promote questions, growth, and advance thinking and practice among the CT peer support community and beyond.

**AUGUST 28TH**  
**VIRTUAL**  
**@1PM-3PM EST**

**REGISTER TODAY**  
[Click here!](#)

**IN PERSON - SAVE THE DATE!**  
8/28 @ 1-4 PM EST  
LOCATION:  
Yale Program for Recovery & Community Health (PRCH)  
Enrico Square Bldg. 5  
333 Park Street  
New Haven, CT

**QR CODE**

**EQUITY IN THE PEER WORKFORCE**

**50% UPWARD SPIRAL SUMMER SERIES & THE DIVERSITY OF WELLNESS**

**Taina Laing**  
MSW, NYCPS

Taina Laing, MSW, NYCPS, is the Chief Operating Officer of Baltic Street Wellness Solutions, the largest peer-led organization in New York State. She brings over 20 years of experience in peer supervision, advocacy, and vocational services for individuals living with mental health and substance use/misuse diagnoses. Taina is passionate about advocating for equality and addressing service disparities in low socioeconomic communities. She believes in the transformative power of peer specialists and the essential role of peer advocates in all areas of recovery and support.

As she often says, "Peer advocacy supports are integral to all social determinants of health! We cannot allow social or health policies to be written without the inclusion of the peer perspective and insight."

Taina is actively involved in several committees and boards across New York State. She serves as Co-President of the Alliance for Rights and Recovery (formerly the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, NYAPRS), President of the New York State Peer Certification Board, and a member of the College for Behavioral Health board. She is also an organizational member of WCNV-IPA, APS Advisory Council and has contributed to the development and oversight of the MHA National Certified Peer Specialist exam. Taina earned her MSW from Stony Brook University, is a New York State Certified Peer Specialist, and looks forward to pursuing a Ph.D. focused on researching transgenerational trauma and systemic oppression within the mental health and justice systems.

**BALTIC STREET WELLNESS SOLUTIONS** **WCNV-IPA**

**69** **Questions/Accommodations needed:**  
Contact Cheri Bragg  
Email [cheri.bragg@yale.edu](mailto:cheri.bragg@yale.edu)

This project is sponsored this summer by funding made available to Dr. Bellamy by the Yale LETHal Academy by Yale School of Medicine and Yale Dept of Psychiatry.

Join program on community and community