

September 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.

Event & Opportunity: NNTAC 2025 System of Care Virtual Summit

Across the nation, communities are coming together to play an active role in shaping the mental health services that impact their lives. By fostering partnerships and collaborative efforts, we can transform existing systems to better meet the needs of children, youth, and families. This holistic approach ensures that community voices are central, creating services that are more effective, equitable, and responsive.

The 2025 Virtual System of Care Summit is a platform for continued collaboration and innovation, embodying the theme "**Empowering Communities and Transforming Systems Together.**" Whether you are engaged in community outreach, provide essential services, or support families and youth in any capacity, we invite you to be a part of this transformative journey.

Submit your proposal to present in one of our five tracks and contribute to building a brighter future for all communities!

Presentation proposals should highlight best practices, successful collaborations, innovations, lessons learned, or solutions to challenges in one of these specific tracks:

- **Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in System of Care**

- Cross-Sector Partnerships (Schools, Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, Community Organizations, and Primary Care Settings)
- Youth Partnership in Practice, Evaluation, and Policy
- Family Partnership in Practice, Evaluation, and Policy
- Emerging Topics
- Systems Change

Acceptance notifications will be sent by December 6, 2024. Proposal submission topics cannot be changed after the review and selection process. Please note, NTTAC reserves the right to revise proposal titles, descriptions, and objectives for style and clarity.

Presenters will be required to upload their presentation and their supporting materials and resources **prior** to the summit. If your proposal is selected, you will be provided with further instructions on uploading your materials.

For more information on session types and requirements, please review the [proposal guidelines](#). Should you have questions, comments, or concerns, please email asingleton@cars-rp.org.

Opportunity: YouthMOVE National's Peer Support 101 Course

This course is meant to guide you through an experience that shows that lived experience can be used in a variety of meaningful ways, including creating career pathways! This two-part learning series is designed to show you that your story is powerful and can be used to make a change in the world!

Learning Objectives:

- Explore different ways in which expertise is defined
- Recognize that your story has meaning and is a powerful, destigmatizing tool to make change
- Familiarize yourself with career pathways for youth with lived experience
- Identify opportunities for using your lived experience



FREE ONLINE COURSE



Own Your Story & Be a Resource for Change

Youth MOVE National's Youth Peer Support 101 Course.

This course guides you through an experience that shows that lived experience can be used in a variety of meaningful ways, including creating career pathways!

REGISTER NOW

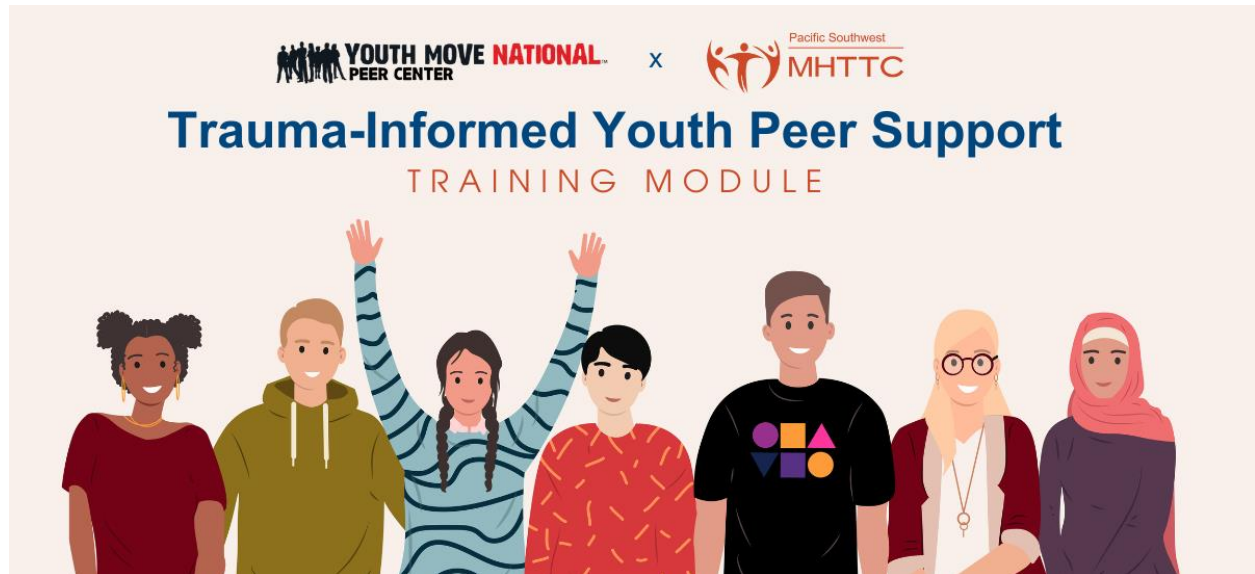
The Youth MOVE National TA Center is a program of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) under grant 1H79SM082658-01 and, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Interviews, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or HHS.

Opportunity:

This training module will assist participants in understanding the foundations of trauma-informed care, including its principles and philosophy, demonstrate why this approach to care is important, and present strategies for incorporating trauma-informed practices throughout youth peer support services. It is critical for peer providers to understand how trauma may impact the youth and young adults they serve. This training will provide concrete examples of what trauma-informed practice looks like in action and how to apply this philosophy within peer relationships.

The online course was collaboratively developed and produced by the Pacific Southwest MHTTC and Youth MOVE National.

[Trauma-Informed Youth Peer Support - Mental Health Technology Transfer Center \(MHTTC\) Network \(mhttcnetwork.org\)](https://mhttcnetwork.org)



Event: Mental Health America (MHA) Conference from September 19th to September 21st. Virtual registration is at a donated rate meaning people can register at no cost if needed or select a donation amount of your choice.

See you there!



**MENTAL HEALTH
AMERICA
CONFERENCE**

DISRUPT > REFORM > Transform

Sept. 19-21, 2024
Washington, D.C.

Register today
mhanational.org/conference



**MENTAL HEALTH
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Explore **important**
topics like

- Community Responses to
Disaster and Humanitarian Crises
- Local Solutions to Equity Needs
- Innovation
- Substance Use
- Advocacy and Policy
- Youth and Young Adults



Sept. 19-21, 2024
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Register today
mhanational.org/conference



**MENTAL HEALTH
AMERICA
CONFERENCE**

DISRUPT > REFORM > Transform

Earn up to 40 CEU's

Register Today and Pay What You Can

Streaming live
Sept. 17-21, 2024



Event:

Virtual, Interactive Meeting on Forging a Path for Increased Oral Health Access in New York: Workforce Strategies

October 8, 2024

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

[REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN](#)

This meeting will capitalize on oral health workforce conversations underway in New York, including the [Future Oral Health Workforce Project](#) of the Schuyler Center, the NYS Head Start Collaboration Office, the Early Childhood Advisory Council and the NYS Council on Children and Families.

The interactive program will engage participants to share their insights, expertise and ideas for expanding access to oral health services.

Event: The 5th annual **Re-Imagining Behavioral Health: Race, Equity & Social Justice Conference** (RESJ) will be on September 26-27, 2024

Registration and Schedule Linked Here: [Airmeet: 2024 Re-Imagining Behavioral Health: Race, Equity & Social Justice Conference](#)

Description #1: “The two half-day free virtual conference hosted by the Behavioral Health Institute at Harborview and funded by the Washington State Health Care Authority is designed to empower individuals and teams in Washington State and beyond who want to advance health equity and support diversity and inclusion in behavioral health care.

The conference is an opportunity to connect with others and join in a meaningful conversation about healing racial trauma, dismantling racism, and combating systemic racism and social injustices through the lens of mental health and substance use issues.

Our Northwest MHTTC Staff have been actively involved in the planning process alongside a committee of partners, thought leaders and experts in the fields of race, equity, social justice, and behavioral health located throughout Washington State. We are honored to provide support and looking forward to this year's amazing conference!

Please contact bhinstitute@uw.edu with any questions concerning this conference.”

Description #2: “The two half-day virtual conference unites a variety of individuals from the Washington state behavioral health community and beyond. They come together to exchange information, perspectives, best practices, and

policies aimed at promoting equity and social justice in the behavioral health field and our communities.

The RESJ conference is designed to empower individuals and teams who want to advance health equity and support diversity, inclusion, and belonging in behavioral health care. Conference attendees include behavioral healthcare staff, program and clinical leaders, people with lived experience, family members, peers, policy makers, public and non-profit employees, and general community members.

The goal of the conference is to provide a learning and sharing experience that expands knowledge, promotes partnerships, and brings behavioral health systems closer to equity. The conference is an opportunity to connect with others and join in meaningful conversations about healing racial trauma, dismantling systemic racism, and combating social injustices through the lens of mental health and substance use issues.

Dates, Cost and Continuing Education

Thursday, September 26, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM (PT)

Friday, September 27, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM (PT)

The conference is virtual and free to attend.
CE certificates will be available.

The conference is convened by the UW Medicine Behavioral Health Institute at Harborview Medical Center and is funded by the Washington State Health Care Authority. The conference's collaborative planning committee includes thought leaders and experts in the fields of health equity, race, social justice, and behavioral health throughout Washington state."

Opportunity (Ongoing):

Recovery Science and Harm Reduction Reading Group

"We are an interdisciplinary reading group that meets to discuss a recent journal article on a topic related to recovery science and/or harm reduction. We meet the third Thursday of each month from 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM ET. We are open to all: people who use drugs or in recovery,

family and friends, peer recovery specialists, care providers, policy makers, students, researchers, and anyone interested."

Opportunity (Ongoing):

Wildflower Alliance Online Support Groups

The Wildflower Alliance of Massachusetts offers a number of online support groups throughout the week, including Alternatives to Suicide, Grief Support, Health and Wellness groups, and more. All groups are free and accessible to the public.

Opportunity:

The **Youth MOVE National Youth Best Practice Committee** (YBPC) has built a questionnaire to help inform the efforts of uplifting youth and young adults with lived experience and their stories. The YBPC hopes that gathering information from those ***with lived experience specifically in the workforce in youth-serving roles*** (e.g. youth peer support specialist, youth coordinator, case manager, administrative assistant) will assist in advocating for the need of these types of positions, and their expansion across the country!

We are inviting young people (under 30) *and* adults (30+) with lived experience in these youth-serving roles to fill out the survey that corresponds to their age. The average length of completion is around 10 minutes.

**All answers are optional and will be kept anonymous.*

[YBPC Questionnaire Flyer \(mcusercontent.com\)](https://mcusercontent.com/)

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

The Youth MOVE National Youth Best Practice Committee invites you to help improve how youth-serving organizations support young people, especially those with lived experiences.

Share your insights by completing the survey below and contribute to developing effective practices and solutions!



Youth & Young
Adults
(ages 14-29)



Supportive Adults
(age 30 and older)

Find Both Survey Links in the Caption Below!
Learn more about the Youth Best Practice Committee >>



The Youth MOVE National TA Center is a program of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. This survey was developed under grant 1H795M082458-01 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Interviews, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or HHS.

Event:

This webinar is part of the Youth MOVE Peer Center's Back to Basics Webinar Series, for **youth, young adults** and **those who serve youth**. There is one more upcoming webinar in this series, learn more about it below!

September 30th | Youth Peer Support 101 Webinar

Time: 7pm - 8pm ET / 4pm - 5pm PT

Learn how to use your lived experience to support youth and young adults in this overview of peer support, its role, history, and potential career pathways.



BACK TO BASICS

No-cost webinar series for **youth, young adults** and **those who serve youth**.



Strategic Sharing

September 19th, 2024 at 7pm ET / 4pm PT

Explore the practice of strategic sharing: a means to express stories of lived experience effectively and intentionally, with an emphasis on safety and self-care.

REGISTER NOW

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Opportunity:

Elevating Youth Voices (EYV) is a collaboration between the **American Institutes for Research (AIR)** and young people in Wisconsin. They're working together to improve how community organizations, schools, and the justice system work together to support youth who have had contact with the justice system.

The EYV Youth Research Team is recruiting new members aged 18-25, living in Wisconsin, with justice contact experience (or a close family member who has been involved in the justice system). As a team member, young people will conduct interviews and surveys to explore important questions about lived experiences with schools, organizations and the justice system. For their time (approximately 5 hours per month), young people receive a \$1,000 annual stipend.

For any questions, contact Marlo Reeves at mreeves@air.org.

Sign Up Link: [Make Your Voice Heard on Youth Justice in Wisconsin! - Airtable](#)

Event: Free Virtual Training titled, “Equity in Data Visualization”, by Alice Feng

In today's increasingly diverse world, data communicators must ensure that the way they analyze and present their data upholds the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and avoids perpetuating stereotypes, biases, or other types of harm.

Taking a DEI perspective means considering how the specific lived experiences and perspectives of the people and communities we are studying, as well as our readers, will perceive the way we communicate data and information.

This session will offer a set of starting points on how to apply an equity lens to the way we visualize data, covering topics such as:

- Principles for creating diverse, equitable, and inclusive data visualizations
- Ways to use language, order data, and choose color palettes and icons that reflect sensitivity and inclusiveness
- Strategies for demonstrating empathy in data-driven communications
- Approaches for handling missing data in an inclusive manner

Presenter: Alice Feng is a data visualization designer and developer based in the Washington, DC area. She is passionate about using design to make data and information more accessible to broader audiences and has been exploring ways to bring equity and accessibility into the way data is visualized through her work on the Do No Harm Guide series. Alice previously worked as a data visualization developer at the Urban Institute and the United Nations Development Programme and is currently visualizing data at Axios.



CeKTER



KTAcademy

"Equity in Data Visualization"

In today's increasingly diverse world, data communicators must ensure that the way they analyze and present their data upholds the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and avoids perpetuating stereotypes, biases, or other types of harm.

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Join us:

Register Here:

https://bostonu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7CuGLSIWTCGtDmJ1UoIJJA

September 19th, 2024

• 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST •



BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

University of
Massachusetts
UMASS Medical School

NIDILRR
National Institute on Disability, Independent Living,
and Rehabilitation Research

The contents of this website were funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), Grant #90CEM0004. NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), ACL is in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this website do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, or HHS and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

(From August 2024)

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 6th**.

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:

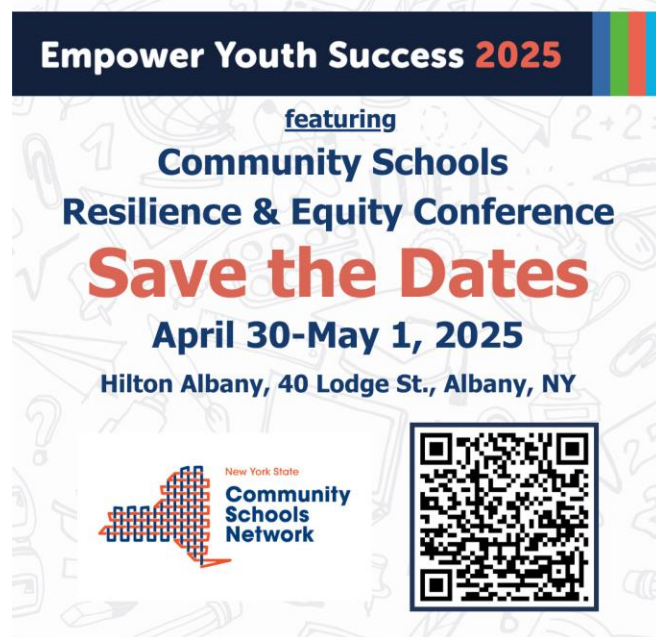
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7823011/OPWDDCareCoordinationSurvey>

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 30th to May 1st 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 1st, 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).

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 18th, 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 21st, 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!



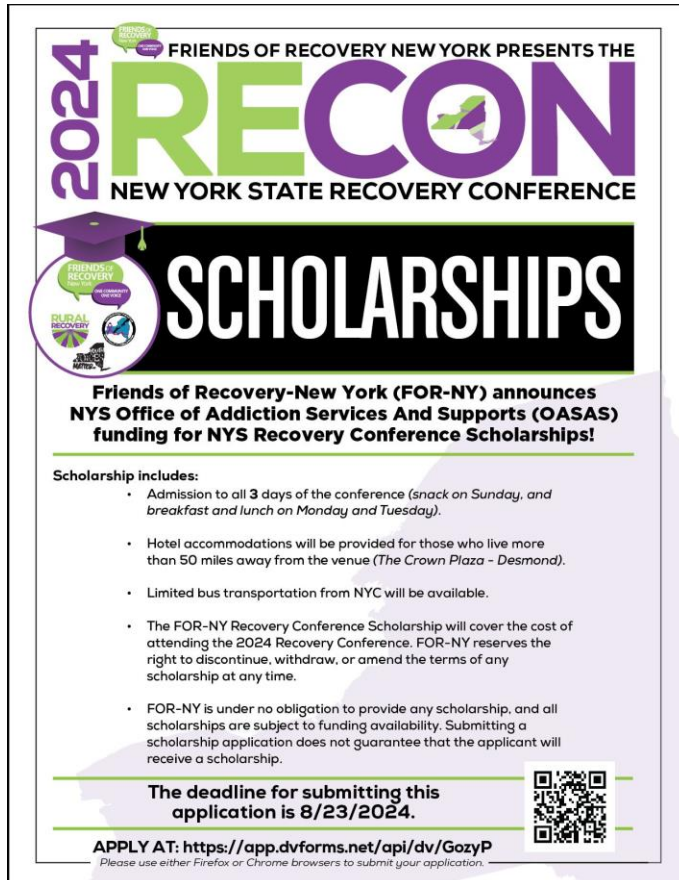
Opportunity:

[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 23rd, 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-jki7g>



The poster is for the 2024 RECON New York State Recovery Conference. It features a large '2024' on the left, a map of New York in the 'O' of 'RECON', and a graduation cap icon with a circular logo. The text 'FRIENDS OF RECOVERY NEW YORK PRESENTS THE' is above 'RECON', and 'NEW YORK STATE RECOVERY CONFERENCE' is below it. 'SCHOLARSHIPS' is written in large white letters on a black background. Below this, a paragraph announces the funding. A bulleted list details the scholarship's benefits and terms. A QR code and application link are at the bottom.

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 21st, 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
Karen Heisig, kheisig@afsp.org

Brought to you by funds raised by the Out of the Darkness Community Walks! Find your walk at afsp.org/oofd

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 28th 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!](#)

QR CODE

EQUITY IN THE PEER WORKFORCE

50% UPWARD SPIRAL SUMMER SERIES & THE DIVERSITY OF WEATHERS



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.



Questions/Accommodations needed:
Contact Cheri Bragg
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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.

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