On September 20, 2016, people in long-term recovery, family members of those impacted by addiction, and professionals that work in the Drug and Alcohol treatment and recovery field, will gather together at the State Capitol Building in Harrisburg to show their support for Recovery. The goal for this event is simple, show that recovery is possible and reduce stigma around the disease of addiction! We want to make sure that this event is not political or in support of any particular legislation, the idea is to gather the recovery community together to let their voice be heard.

Last year was the first annual Courage to Change Recovery Advocacy Day event and there were a lot of people from across the state that came out to show their support. This year we are expecting an even larger turnout. For our first year, we only had a short time period to plan the day as we wanted to make sure our event was held annually in September, which is National Recovery Month. The color associated with National Recovery Month is purple and we encourage attendees to wear something purple on this day. We have been working diligently since last September to ensure that this September is spectacular. “Our planning committee for this event consists of representatives from SCAs across the state, such as Washington, AICDAC, Blair and Luzerne to name a few; SPHS, PACDAA; PRO•A; Young People in Recovery; and Value Behavioral Health.”

The Recovery Works Summit is a product of a SAMHSA Recovery and Resiliency grant awarded to PRO•A in collaboration with the PMHCA. It focuses on the workforce needs of our service system as defined by people in recovery. We believe that peers must be a key part of design, policy development, implementation, delivery, supervision and evaluation of recovery services across our service system. Conference participants will hear from leaders in our Federal and State administrations and from people in recovery about the status, challenges and opportunities within Pennsylvania’s drug and alcohol and mental health service systems. The importance of lived experience and actions that can strengthen both our recovery systems and workforces will be emphasized.

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 27, 2016
WHERE: SHERATON HARRISBURG HERSHEY HOTEL
4650 LINDLE RD
HARRISBURG, PA 17111

Continued on page 7
Our vision includes a world with less suffering, more community and a social purpose that goes beyond the physical world only to tap into the core of our loving spiritual essence.

Travis “The Featherhawk” Snyder—
Founder and Leader of The Skook Recovers™

We are a grassroots addiction recovery project based in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. Our mission is to inspire positive change and bring our communities together to help overcome the suffering that is destroying our cities, towns, families and so many people who live here. The mission from which we are expanding on is to share and inspire with the use of personal testimonies, written words, videos and other forms of creative expression. Recently, we have been actively engaged in community volunteer projects; these projects clean-up and beautify areas of the cities and towns we live in. Our motto is “Together We Become Stronger.” We believe that in order to recover our county and its residents to a more positive unified consciousness, we are going to need a collective effort from all areas of our county and communities. We believe the same loving qualities that allow us to recover from addictions are the same qualities that produce the necessary energy for a bigger change that goes beyond our individual transformations. We have experienced the value that lies in matters of the spirit, which leads us to believe that our collective loving energy has the potential to unlock a profound shift in our awareness. With the awareness we can create a better opportunity for the positive changes so many of us desire.

To read our testimonies, watch our videos and learn more about our county and community based projects please visit www.theskookrecovers.com.

We are also on Facebook and Instagram. Find us by searching: The Skook Recovers and @theskookrecovers.

You may also call us or text us at 570-391-6684.
Northampton County Drug & Alcohol Division administrator, Tiffany Rossanese and Lehigh Valley Drug & Alcohol Intake Executive Director, Tim Munsch felt that a recovery-based resource center was needed in the Easton area. There was so much feedback on the positive results of the Bethlehem Recovery Center in the Bethlehem community that Northampton County funded the new RCO, “Change on 3rd St”, located at 117 North 3rd. street Easton, PA 18042.

Hi, my name is Phillip Chaney. I am the program director at “Change on 3rd Street. I'm grateful to serve the community of Easton and to help individuals begin their journey in recovery. I am a recovering member of a 12-step fellowship with over 16 years' clean. I want individuals seeking recovery to know that they are not alone. The mission of Change on 3rd Street is “to help those with their recovery with the resources that we and other agencies have to offer because together, recovery works!”

Change on 3rd Street offers persons in recovery a safe place to find support and access to resources that will help them to be successful in the journey ahead of them. We collaborate with the existing community resource centers to meet the needs of people who are in need of a variety of things. A soft-opening occurred on July 5, 2016; our official opening will be announced soon.

We continue with our renovations and have added furniture which includes a television. This establishes an inviting ambience that can be felt the moment you enter Change on 3rd Street. The county funding has been put to good use by providing the renovations which also includes two new computers with internet access. With this valuable resource, we can offer assistance with career search, resume writing and resume editing. We also offer health & wellness, yoga, board games, 12-step meetings and much more to be planned. Change on 3rd Street wants to help.

Recovery is real. Recovery is possible.

It's not surprising that I had never heard of National Recovery Month before getting involved in my own personal recovery from addiction. I had barely even known of recovery, or understood that it was possible. I certainly would have never thought it was something worth celebrating. I didn't really know many people in long term recovery. As it turns out, they were there all along, cloaked in personal anonymity.

Despite the fact that Recovery Month had been around for nearly two decades at the time, it wasn't really happening in my community. I was happy to help change that in my early recovery. I joined a small Recovery Community Organization called The Advocacy Group for Addiction Recovery (TAG). There were only between three and six members active at the time, but we met together regularly and planned a recovery walk in our small town. This was not the first recovery walk our town had seen, but it turned out to be much larger than the original. Approximately 100 persons in recovery, family members and friends gathered in support of one another wearing the same color T-shirts with “Recovery Walk” emblazoned on the back. We marched through the town and had a great time together, laughing, talking, eating, and celebrating each other's accomplishments. We were putting a face to the unseen recovery, in an effort to eradicate the stigma of addiction.

Each year, our growing membership continues this tradition during National Recovery Month. We provide musical entertainment, food, and other festivities for all participants. Our townspeople recognize us and appreciate what we are doing. We hope to continue to grow in 2016 and into the future. Recovery is real. Recovery is possible. It is happening right in my community. September and always.

Graham Grabiec
The Advocacy Group for Addiction Recovery (TAG)
Recovery Advocacy Day aims to raise awareness of substance use disorders and celebrates individuals in long-term recovery. Recovery advocacy day also acknowledges the work of prevention, treatment and recovery support services. In order to do this, participants are invited to meet with legislators to share their stories of recovery and convey a message of hope. Recovery Advocacy Day is an opportunity to celebrate National Recovery Month and to thank legislators for their efforts and continued support.

This will be an all-day event where Advocates for Recovery from all across Pennsylvania come to meet with Legislators to talk to them about their own personal recovery and answer any questions they may have about addiction and the recovery process. Our day will conclude with a Media Event in the Rotunda where we will have recovery speakers and have a Resolution read. In my opinion, the most important thing that will happen on September 20th is that we will give Recovery a face and a voice. We will let everyone know that recovery is possible, people can and do recover, and despite the rise in the number of overdoses across the Commonwealth there is also a large number of people finding and sustaining recovery.

The mission of Recovery Advocacy Day is…… Inspiring others to advocate for change to reduce stigma associated with substance use disorders.

Everyone is welcome to attend Recovery Advocacy Day; we know addiction affects 1 in every 4 families. According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention during 2014, a total of 47,055 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States. This insidious disease is killing our friends, family members, and our neighbors. This day is a time to celebrate those who are in recovery and try to reduce stigma for those seeking treatment and recovery. If you are in recovery, have a friend or family member that has struggled with addiction, or are someone that supports recovery then we hope to see you at the Capitol on 9/20/16. For more information about the Courage To Change Recovery Advocacy Day Event visit our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/recoveryadvocacy/. To register for the event go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RZW5H5V

Additional details can be found at http://www.pacdaa.org/Pages/2016RAD.aspx

Written by: Mike Krafick, CRS Supervisor at Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission and Ashley Potts, BA Supervisor at SPHS Crisis Stabilization/Diversion Unit.
On May 16, 2016, House Resolution 590 was adopted by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. This resolution directs the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) to convene a task force to assess access to addiction treatment. House Resolution 590 charges DDAP with establishing and administering the task force to review compliance with all current relevant laws, regulations and agreements.

DDAP has convened a task force to examine existing laws governing access to drug and alcohol treatment and identify ways to help consumers access treatment. In addition to holding a series of public meetings, the task force will also accept and consider public comment beginning August 1, 2016. A report detailing the task force’s findings as well as recommendations to address identified barriers to treatment is due to the General Assembly in May 2017.

The multi-agency initiative includes representation on the task force from the Pennsylvania Departments of Health (DOH) and Human Services (DHS), the Pennsylvania Insurance Department (PID), addiction treatment programs, patient advocates and parents and loved ones of those with addiction. Members of the task force include:

- Brett Lechleitner, president, Pennsylvania Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence
- Lynn Cooper, director, Drug & Alcohol Division, Western Region Representative, Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association
- Deb Beck, president, Drug and Alcohol Service Providers Organization of Pennsylvania
- Michele Denk, executive director, Pennsylvania Association of County Drug and Alcohol Administrators (PACDAA)
- Marie Plumer, Single County Authority administrator, Venango County; treasurer, PACDAA
- Bill Stauffer, executive director, Pennsylvania Recovery Organization–Alliance
- Gina Riordan, member, Pennsylvania Parent Advisory Council
- Robin Horston Spencer, executive director, Message Carriers of Pennsylvania
- Honorable Michael Barrasso, chairperson, DWI Court Task Force; judge - DWI Court, Scranton
- Jeff Hanley, co-vice president and board member, Commonwealth Prevention Alliance
- Jessica Altman, chief of staff, PID
- Lauren Hughes, deputy secretary for Health Innovation, DOH
- Jean Rush, division director, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Bureau of Policy and Program Development, DHS

The task force will hold a series of public hearings across the Commonwealth beginning in late summer or early fall. The schedule of public hearings will be announced when it is finalized.

As part of its process, the task force has also begun accepting and considering public comments. Instructions for submitting comments can be found at www.ddap.pa.gov. You may also see blue box below for links to submit your comments.

“We are in the midst of the worst ever overdose death epidemic, with nearly 3,400 people dying of drug overdose in Pennsylvania in 2015,” said DDAP Secretary Gary Tennis. “We must ensure that those who need addiction treatment have unfettered access to it. Therefore, the work of this task force is absolutely critical. We look forward to the task force’s findings and recommendations.”

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**PRO•A**

As the Statewide Recovery Community Organization, PRO•A is sharing the following information with you in hopes that you will take a few moments to share your experience. This is an important moment in Pennsylvania Legislative History that allows you to have an impact on Drug and Alcohol treatment in Pennsylvania.

House Resolution 590 charges the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) with establishing and administering a task force to examine existing laws governing access to drug and alcohol treatment and identify ways to help consumers access treatment. As part of the process, the task force will accept and consider public comment for the entire month of August.

Anyone with a vested interest and personal experience in accessing drug and alcohol treatment in Pennsylvania is welcome to submit comment. This includes individuals who have attempted to access treatment, their friends and family members, treatment providers, insurers and other organizations with an interest in and connection to addiction treatment.

To submit comment on behalf of self/family/friends visit: www.surveymonkey.com/r/HR590P

Agencies/Stakeholders can submit comments by at www.surveymonkey.com/r/HR590A
PATHWAYS TO PARDONS
FOR INDIVIDUALS IN RECOVERY

The Office of Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack, the PA Board of Pardons, and the PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, in collaboration with PRO•A, PA Department of Corrections, PA Board of Probation and Parole, Lawyers for Social Equity and many other stakeholders throughout Pennsylvania, teamed up to create Pathways to Pardons. Pathways to Pardons (P2P) is an education, training and outreach campaign on the pardons process and its’ improvements, including expungement and sealing of criminal records, that will benefit all communities throughout the Commonwealth of PA. It is our hope that through this initiative, individuals in sustained recovery will be better able to understand and navigate the pardons process.

Currently, 70% of all applications received for pardons are for drug convictions and 60% of applicant’s report substance use disorders. Through the mixed background and experience of partners, affiliates and community members, we recognize that many of the cornerstone values in an individual’s recovery are components taken into consideration during a pardon process.

Does your criminal record make you feel hopeless? Is it hindering your ability to move forward with your life despite the many positive changes you have made?

If so, please plan to attend a Pathway to Pardons educational session that will be held in conjunction with Dauphin County’s 2nd Annual Recovery Day event on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at the Harrisburg East Mall.

**WHAT:** The PA Board of Pardons will facilitate a short presentation on the Pathways to Pardons initiative which will detail the process and requirements to apply for expungement of your criminal record or a pardon.

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 24, 2016 (seating will begin at 2:45 PM with the presentation beginning at 3:00 PM).

**WHERE:** The Dauphin County 2nd Annual Recovery Day Event at the Harrisburg East Mall. The presentation will be indoors – more detailed information on the exact location in the mall will follow.

**WHY:** Because everyone deserves a second chance.

Carol Ramsey, pictured with the civil rights clinic, a 65-year-old Pittsburgh native who successfully received a pardon from Governor Tom Wolf in May 2016.

To view the Public Service Announcement for the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons that highlights the story of Carol Ramsey; see Pathway to Pardon: Carol Ramsey (PSA) at www.youtube.com/watch?v=V_ywKEkyqPM.
ANNOUNCING

Recovery Works
Summit 2016

Tuesday, September 27, 2016
Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel

The Recovery Works Summit is an exciting and historic opportunity to bring together the mental health and drug and alcohol recovery communities. Join us for networking, presentations, discussion and recovery stories! People in recovery, providers of behavioral health services and policy makers will collaborate to strengthen our collective voices, use our talents and experiences to expand employment opportunities, unite our voices on advocacy issues and eliminate stigma and discrimination. Our work at the Summit will carry us forward to a more recovery oriented approach to policies, services and employment opportunities.

Speakers and participants include: Bill Stauffer, LSW, Executive Director - PRO•A; Lynn Keltz, M.A., Executive Director – PMHCA; Ted Dallas, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (Invited); Paolo del Vecchio, MSW, Director, Center for Mental Health Services - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; Tom Hill, MSW, Senior Advisor on Addiction and Recovery to the Administrator of the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration; Gary Tennis, ESQ., Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs; Liz Woodley, Forensic Peer Support Specialist-PMHCA; Michael Donahue, Luzerne County Human Services Director, Dona M. Dmitrovic, Director of Consumer Affairs-Optum; Peter Ashenden, Director of Consumer and Family Affairs-Optum; Connie Karasow, MSW, person in long term recovery, retired Executive Director of Libertae; Advocate Brian Stubbs, Certified Peer Specialist; Advocate, Educator and Author, Anthony Cek, Executive Director - Halcyon Center; Dana Baccanti, MA, CRC, Chief, Special Programs Division - Office of Vocational Rehabilitation PA Department of Labor & Industry; Tracy A Carney, CPRP, CPS, Senior Recovery/Resiliency Specialist-Community Care Behavioral Health Organization; Sharon LeGore, President/Founder – Momstell; Devin Reaves, CRS - Young People in Recovery; Tracy Shultz, MS, HealthChoices Project Manager - Behavioral Health Services of Somerset and Bedford Counties, Inc.

For more information, contact Patti Baranowski at patti.b@pro-a.org
Registration page: http://recoveryworkssummit2016.ticketleap.com/recovery-works-summit-2016/

RECOVERY MONTH 2016 IS

Join the Voices for Recovery:
Our Families, Our Stories, Our Recovery!

National Recovery Month

Every September, SAMHSA sponsors Recovery Month to increase awareness and understanding of mental and substance use disorders and celebrate the people who recover.

SAMHSA has an entire page dedicated to National Recovery Month. You can visit https://www.recoverymonth.gov/home for Public Service Announcements (PSA’s), to find out about the history of recovery month, find information on Recovery Month 2016 events, and much more!
Celebrates Recovery 2016!

Message Carriers, a 501c3 Recovery Community Organization, is proud to announce our upcoming National Recovery Month events, so we are starting our celebration a day early! **August 31st** is International Overdose Awareness Day. We will participate with our local FED UP! Rally group in Pittsburgh, to call an end to our nation's epidemic of addiction and overdose deaths attributed to opioids, including heroin, and other prescription drugs. Our own Adrienne Smith and Lou Rainaldi Jr. will coordinate this event. Lou lost his niece Amber to an overdose June, 2015 and he's determined that her death will not be in vain.

A few speakers at this event will be Carol Ramsey-Lewis, a Message Carriers board member, Adrienne Smith, volunteer of Message Carriers and Jason Snyder, Policy and Communication Director of the Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs. Each of these individuals are persons in long term recovery. The FED UP! event will be held in Market Square, located in downtown Pittsburgh.

Lou also started a 120 A Day Fitness Challenge for the month of August on his website www.yinzersgetfit.com. Lou blogs that “Fitness has been proven to be helpful in recovery and grief.” Each day he features a fitness challenge, a story honoring an individual whose life was lost to an overdose, and a nonprofit charity. He began with his niece Amber and Message Carriers was the nonprofit featured at the beginning of August. Message Carriers will continue to support Lou and FED UP! to bring about a change needed to decrease these untimely and preventable deaths from opioid addiction.

On **September 10th**, we will join Pittsburgh Recovery Walk in celebrating the many pathways to recovery. This event will run from 10 am -3 pm on Liberty Ave at the bus terminal down to Market Square. Message Carriers along with many other organizations in Pittsburgh have come together with IRETA & City Council to promote recovery and the benefits it brings to everyone! Join Message Carriers Rocks team at www.Eventbrite.org and select Pittsburgh Recovery Walk event! There will be several tables of services for individuals to visit, as well as speakers, music, line-dancing and more.

On **September 17th**, we will host our second “Recovery Lights Up the Night” bike ride. Message Carriers has partnered with the biking community to help increase awareness of recovery through bicycling. The night ride will begin in front our office building at 5907 Penn Ave. and continue through the East End of Pittsburgh communities of East Liberty, Highland Park, and Shadyside. This is a family, community, friendly and free event! We can offer renters discounts for individuals who don't have a bike; a chance to win a bike, reflectors to illuminate your bike on first serve basis and much more! If you're not a rider you're invited to come, hang out under our tent anyway! You can learn more about us and recovery support services; like our after-hours helpline that receives calls from 5pm to midnight, how to navigate resources or treatment facilities; how to get involved as a volunteer and/or attend our monthly community meetings to learn how together our voices can change a system for those we love and care about. This is a free event. However, please register on www.Eventbrite.org. There is a $10 donation to enter to win the bike and get a T-shirt sporting “Message Carriers Recovery Lights Up the Night!”

We want to thank:

Lastly, we are very proud to announce our first Town Hall, scheduled to occur Wednesday **September 28th**, at the Carnegie Library- 130 S. Whitfield Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206 6-8 pm. Join us as we engage in a conversation about the state of the Opioid Epidemic in the Greater Pittsburgh area. We invite anyone and everyone in the community to learn about the impact of the Opioid epidemic and how Pittsburgh has responded. Guest speakers will discuss the state of the Opioid Epidemic and Recovery from Opioid Abuse from their perspective; there will also be time for a question and answer session.

Our celebrated confirmed panel includes:

Heather Woods, a person in long term recovery who was saved by Narcan, Carol Ramsey-Lewis, CRS, person in long term recovery and Message Carriers Board Member, David J. Hickton, U.S. Attorney, Western District of Pennsylvania, Jason Snyder, Policy and Communications Director, Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs.

For more information, this event too is listed on Eventbrite even though it's free! Please register as seating is limited.
You can contact our office at 412 361-0142 or our after-hours from 5-midnight at 412 463-7006.

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**GENERATION FOUND**

**OPENS THE DIALOGUE TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN STOP THE LOSS OF A GENERATION AND HELP THEM TO BE FOUND.**

From the creators of the groundbreaking film, *The Anonymous People*, comes *Generation Found*, a powerful story about one community coming together to ignite a youth addiction recovery revolution in their hometown. Devastated by an epidemic of addiction, Houston faced the reality of burying and locking up its young people at an alarming rate. And so in one of the largest cities in America, visionary counselors, law school dropouts, aspiring rock musicians, retired football players, oil industry executives, and church leaders came together to build the world’s largest peer-driven youth and family recovery community.

Independently filmed over the course of two years, *Generation Found* takes an unprecedented and intimate look at how a system of treatment centers, sober high schools, alternative peer groups, and collegiate recovery programs can exist in concert to intervene early and provide a real and tested long-term alternative to the “War on Drugs.” It is not only a deeply personal story, but one with real-world utility for communities struggling with addiction worldwide.

For more information, visit [http://generationfoundfilm.com/#home](http://generationfoundfilm.com/#home).
Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance was excited to be invited to attend Marginalized to Empowered Conference in Philadelphia. The conference, held in late July, was sponsored by the Life of Purpose residential treatment centers. The one-day conference focused on substance use and mental health disorders on college campuses as well as how collegiate recovery is helping students to overcome these challenges and form communities of recovery within our higher education institutions. This event took place at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia and was attended by people in recovery, representatives of regional colleges and universities and recovery community organizations from as far away as Washington DC. Executive Director William Stauffer, LSW, noted that these programs are critically important to developing a pathway to recovery for our young people. Programs like these will serve to develop awareness of recovery as a viable lifestyle choice and can dramatically change lives for the better across our society.

Philadelphia has over 80 intuitions of higher education. The region has a cluster of collegiate recovery programs and efforts, totaling 5 currently, with more on the horizon as college and university administrators consider developing programs for their institutions. Throughout the conference, there was a focus on how these programs have the life-changing potential of promoting collegiate recovery and ultimately helping more young people to find long term recovery by establishing a culture of recovery within our institutions of higher learning. Event speakers included Keith Murphy of Rutgers University, Mark Levine of George Washington University, Dr. Jade Logan of St. Joseph’s University, Jason Whitney of Penn State University, and Daniel Fred of Transforming Youth Recovery. Penn State has been a leader in embracing collegiate recovery programs. They are in year 6 of their program with 28 students and a dedicated space for both students and staff. The Penn State CRC offers dedicated on-campus recovery housing for up to eight individuals, who are undergraduates or graduates, in their ROAR House (Residence of Addiction Recovery). Penn State’s main recovery programming consists of three, one-hour recovery seminars each week. In these seminars, students discuss issues related to being a student in recovery at Penn State. Additional recovery programming includes 12-Step Workshops, weekend retreats and travel to recovery conferences. Additionally, the Penn State CRC offers academic advocacy, student conduct advocacy, admissions advocacy and alumni support. Under the Penn State CRCs umbrella are two groups: Lions for Recovery (the Penn State CRC’s Affiliated Student Organization) which is student-run and Lions in Recovery (the Penn State CRC’s Alumni Interest Group) which is alumni-run. An amazing 90.9% of their students go from 90 days to graduation without a single return to drugs and alcohol! There are five additional efforts underway across the state.

The event helped bring academics and college administrators together with members of the recovery community to learn about how beneficial these programs can be to both the long term recovery prospects of students as well as student retention for colleges and universities. For more information about the benefits of collegiate recovery programs – please visit the Association of Recovery in Higher Education web site at http://collegiaterecovery.org/

### IN MEMORIAM

**MATTHEW J. D’ANNUNZIO**

PRO•A would like to thank those who thought of us during their time of grief, with their requests to donate to PRO•A in lieu of flowers.

**IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW J. D’ANNUNZIO DONATIONS WERE MADE BY:**

Susan S. Campbell | Staff at Phoenixville OBH | John L & Eileen S. Dautrich | Rachelle L. Mitzel

PRO•A is engaging in ways to memorialize your loved ones.

If you would like your loved one’s information to be included on our website or in print, please contact the program coordinator, Marianna Horowitz, at (717)545-8929 x1 or mhorowitz@pro-a.org regarding the memorialization.

**PRO•A IS WORKING TO STOP THESE SENSELESS LOSSES.**
2016 STATEWIDE RECOVERY MONTH EVENTS

PRO A

For additional information and additional events, please check our on-line calendar at http://pro-a.org/calendar

AUGUST 31 | INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS DAY 12:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Karen at karenplavan@gmail.com
LOCATION: Trinity Cathedral 328 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
DESCRIPTION: Prayer Service for those who still suffer and for those who have overdosed at Trinity Cathedral in downtown Pittsburgh.

AUGUST 31 | 2ND ANNUAL INDIANA COUNTY OVERDOSE AWARENESS CANDLELIGHT VIGIL 6:00 PM
CONTACT INFO: Karen at bsgad2014@gmail.com or (724) 549-2679
LOCATION: Homer City Fire Dept. 45 W. Church St. Homer City, PA 15748
DESCRIPTION: This is a FREE event featuring speakers, information booths, music and Naloxone kits will be available. At 7 there will be a ceremony with a video followed by a balloon release and candlelight vigil. For more information on what you will need to do to receive a Narcan kit, contact Karen.

AUGUST 31 | BOB GLATFELTER MEMORIAL WALK AND OVERDOSE AWARENESS VIGIL 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: 717-424-8890 or 717-850-6350, or by going to the chapter’s Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/notonemore.yorkchapter
LOCATION: York College.
DESCRIPTION: This event will include speakers and a remembrance ceremony. People who lost a loved one to opioid addiction are invited to carry a poster containing photos of their loved one or offering a message of hope during a walk and memorial. If you would like your loved one honored during this ceremony, please send your loved one’s photo along with their name, date of birth and date of death to noteonemoreyorkpa@gmail.com.

AUGUST 31 | NOT ONE MORE - WESTMORELAND CANDLELIGHT VIGIL 6:00 – 8:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: contactusnompgph@gmail.com
LOCATION: Westmoreland County Courthouse
DESCRIPTION: Not One More Westmoreland Chapter’s purpose is to bring awareness of the growing drug epidemic that is killing our loved ones and destroying our communities.
Guest speakers: Honorable Judge Meagan Bilk-DeFazio, Chuck Chappell, Niki Perene - Additional Speakers TBA
Naloxone (Narcan) Training Available.

SEPTEMBER 1 | COMMUNITY TOWN HALL, OUR OPIOID EPIDEMIC 7:00 – 9:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Beth El Congregation by phone at 412-561-1168
LOCATION: 1900 Cochran Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15220
DESCRIPTION: Panel Discussion with addiction and recovery specialists, MDs, law enforcement and Government officials.

SEPTEMBER 2 | PROCLAMATION DEDICATION 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Antoinette Sacco at antoinette.sacco@chinc.org
LOCATION: Cherry Ln, York, PA 17401
DESCRIPTION: This event is in conjunction with York’s first Friday. Judge Kennedy will be reading the proclamation for national recovery month. Judge Kennedy oversees York county’s specially treatment courts.

SEPTEMBER 3 | PRO-ACT’S NATIONAL RECOVERY NIGHT AT THE BASEBALL GAME! 7:05 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Fred Martin 215-923-1661
LOCATION: Citizens Bank Park, Philadelphia
DESCRIPTION: Enjoy a fun night of Phillies baseball with 500 other fans in recovery! See the Phillies take on the Atlanta Braves at home without everyone around you drinking. Tickets are $20 each which includes a small donation to PRO-ACT. Order tickets at http://www.councilsepa.org/cart/products/Donate-to-The-Council/Baseball/National-Recovery-Night-at-the-Baseball-Game.html
SEPTEMBER 4 | RECOVERY WEEKEND 2016 6:00 – 8:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Ebony Gardner at 215-226-7860
LOCATION: Sept. 4 activities will be help at 10th St and Oxford Philadelphia, PA 19122 Sept. 5 activities will occur between 16th and 17th West York Street Philadelphia.
DESCRIPTION: Come out and help our streets recover! There will be free food, giveaways and live entertainment. September 4th activities are a basketball game. September 5th activities will include a back to school book bag/block party. The rain date for Sept. 5th activities is Sept. 10 from 4 PM to 8 PM.

SEPTEMBER 5 | RECOVERY WEEKEND CONT... 2016 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Ebony Gardner at 215-226-7860
LOCATION: Sept. 4 activities will be help at 10th St and Oxford Philadelphia, PA 19122 Sept. 5 activities will occur between 16th and 17th West York Street Philadelphia.
DESCRIPTION: Come out and help our streets recover! There will be free food, giveaways and live entertainment. September 4th activities are a basketball game. September 5th activities will include a back to school book bag/block party. The rain date for Sept. 5th activities is Sept. 10 from 4 PM to 8 PM.

SEPTEMBER 6 | CARBON-MONROE-PIKE DRUG & ALCOHOL COMMISSION’S: MONROE COUNTY RECOVERY WALK 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Visit https://www.facebook.com/events/1351604238188594/
LOCATION: Dansbury Park, Day street; east Stroudsburg, PA
DESCRIPTION: This event will be a walk through the Borough of East Stroudsburg beginning and ending at Dansbury Park. After the walk, there will be guest speakers to discuss various recovery issues. there will also be provider agencies on hand with information about area services. A light picnic will follow the walk. There is no charge to attend this event.

SEPTEMBER 7 | THE ADDICTS MOM: MCCONNELLSBURG, PA LIGHTS OF HOPE WALK 7:00 – 9:30 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Visit https://www.facebook.com/events/1351604238188594/
LOCATION: McConnellsburg Courthouse 201 N. 2nd St McConnellsburg PA, 17233
DESCRIPTION: Our traditional Lights of Hope will be held on September 9th and this event is our opportunity and our right to honor and support our loved ones in their respective stages of recovery.
We do this by lighting three candles – a white candle for those in recovery, a black candle for those who have lost a loved one to addiction, and a red candle for those who are in active addiction.

SEPTEMBER 8 | PghHEROIN EPIDEMI... 2016 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Vanessa Sebetich; Greenbriar Treatment Center at (724) 255-0892
LOCATION: UPMC East Conference Center, ground level; 2775 Moss side Blvd. Monroeville, PA
DESCRIPTION: This is a free, 2-day event, open to the general public. The first day is a Town Hall on the Heroin Epidemic and the second day is Treatment, Prevention and Community Education speakers with CEUs. For more information, please visit www.classy.org/ErieHeroinForum

SEPTEMBER 9 | SAVES THE DATE: SOLUTIONS TO WORKPLACE SUBSTANCE ABUSE: PREVENTION AND TREATMENT STRATEGIES 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Vanessa Sebetich; Greenbriar Treatment Center at (724) 255-0892
LOCATION: UPMC East Conference Center, ground level; 2775 Moss side Blvd. Monroeville, PA
DESCRIPTION: This is a free, 2-day event, open to the general public. The first day is a Town Hall on the Heroin Epidemic and the second day is Treatment, Prevention and Community Education speakers with CEUs. For more information, please visit www.classy.org/ErieHeroinForum

SEPTEMBER 10 | CARBON-MONROE-PIKE DRUG & ALCOHOL COMMISSION’S: MONROE COUNTY RECOVERY WALK 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Contact Vanessa Sebetich; Greenbriar Treatment Center at (724) 255-0892
LOCATION: Dansbury Park, Day street; East Stroudsburg, PA
DESCRIPTION: Event will be a walk through the Borough of East Stroudsburg beginning and ending at Dansbury Park. After the walk, there will be guest speakers to discuss various recovery issues. there will also be provider agencies on hand with information about area services. A light picnic will follow the walk. There is no charge to attend this event.

SEPTEMBER 10 | PITTSBURGH RECOVERY WALK 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: info@pghrecoverywalk.org
LOCATION: Downtown Pittsburgh
DESCRIPTION: The Pittsburgh Recovery Walk celebrates the many roads to recovery from addiction and all those who have traveled them. It aims to dispel negative stigma and recognize recovery as a positive force in our community.
The Pittsburgh Recovery Walk will take place on September 10 from 10am – 3pm. It begins at 11th and Liberty and proceeds down Liberty Avenue to Market Square and a Recovery Expo; loaded with activities and entertainment. For more information or to register visit pghrecoverywalk.org

SEPTEMBER 10 | ADDICTION AWARENESS/RECOVERY WALK & MEMORIAL VIGIL 3:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: gcerb@windstream.net
LOCATION: St. John’s Lutheran Church 45 N Reading Ave, Boyertown, PA 19512
DESCRIPTION: The event Begins: 3:00pm- Information tables on Addiction, Treatment, Recovery, Grief Counseling and Support. Many groups will be available to answer questions. (Tables will remain up until conclusion of event)
Speakers: 4:00-4:30pm- Local Representatives will be speaking about addiction and the governments views. Speakers include State Rep. Marcy Toepel, Commissioner Michelle Kichline and others.
Walk Begins: Approximately 4:30pm- Walk Begins and Ends at St. John Church 45 North Reading Ave, Boyertown, PA 5:00pm- Guest Speaker Diane Shepler of Shine the Light, followed by Memorial Slideshow and Vigil.
Feel free to make shirts or sign representing those lost or time in recovery. To have your loved one’s photo included in memorial slideshow email photo, name, & dates of birth and death to tnneafcyphoto@gmail.com. If you have a large group that is going to walk or have any questions, please email gcerb@windstream.net.

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SEPTEMBER 10 | THE ADDICTS MOM: PORTLAND, PA LIGHTS OF HOPE WALK 5:00 – 8:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: https://www.facebook.com/events/1047162095372251/
LOCATION: Portland, Pennsylvania Rt. 611, Portland Park and Walk Lot
DESCRIPTION: Our traditional Lights of Hope will be held on September 10th and this event is our opportunity and our right to honor and support our loved ones in their respective stages of recovery.
We do this by lighting three candles – a white candle for those in recovery, a black candle for those who have lost a loved one to addiction, and a red candle for those who are in active addiction.

SEPTEMBER 10 | LIGHT THE NIGHT FOR RECOVERY! 6:00 PM, EVENT KICK-OFF AT 7 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Not One More - York Chapter at (717) 659-4720, (717) 424-8890, (717) 850-6350 ornotonemoreyorkpa@gmail.com
LOCATION: Farmers Field Park 3070 Church Rd. Thomasville, PA 17354
DESCRIPTION: Not One More - York Chapter will be hosting a 5K Glow Run and One Mile Fun Run to raise monies for Randy’s Wish Scholarship Fund. Registration is $30.00 per person for Glow Run and $20.00 per person for 1 Mile Fun Run.

SEPTEMBER 10 | THE ADDICTS MOM: TUNKHANNOCK, PA LIGHTS OF HOPE 6:30 – 8:30 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Visit https://www.facebook.com/events/1625041471143001/
LOCATION: Wyoming County Courthouse, 1 St House Square, Tunkhannock, PA 18657
DESCRIPTION: Our traditional Lights of Hope is our opportunity and our right to honor and support our loved ones in their respective stages of recovery.
We do this by lighting three candles – a white candle for those in recovery, a black candle for those who have lost a loved one to addiction, and a red candle for those who are in active addiction.

SEPTEMBER 11 | TREATMENT TRENDS INC. RECOVERY PICNIC 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Peggy Douglass at 610-439-8479
LOCATION: Lehigh Park at Iron Bridge
DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE. Celebrate recovery, bring your family and friends to share in a day of recovery, food, fun and games! Activities include Children’s games and activities, volleyball and baseball.

SEPTEMBER 11 | RECOVERY SPORTS LINK BEGINS AT 1:35 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: IRETA; leilag@ireta.org
LOCATION: PNC Park in Pittsburgh
DESCRIPTION: Sponsored by IRETA and Community Care Behavioral Health, Recovery Sports Link brings together addiction professionals, individuals in recovery, health and human service providers, researchers, public officials and others in Southwest Pennsylvania who support addiction prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery. Anyone is invited to join the festivities. Recovery Sports Link has reserved a section of bleacher seating, available at a discounted price ($20 until August 5, after that regular pricing applies). For more information, visit http://ireta.org/2016-recovery-sports-link/

SEPTEMBER 13 | RECOVERY CELEBRATION 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Rita Wheeler 814.452.4462 x 103 rwheeler@mhanp.org
LOCATION: Hosted by the Martin Luther King Center 312 Chestnut St. Erie PA 16507
DESCRIPTION: The Recovery Celebration (13th year for Erie, PA) celebrates the recovery of people from mental health and substance use disorders. The focus of the celebration is on people sharing their recovery stories to inspire others, give encouragement and hope to others. The recovery stories will reflect the national theme: “Join the Voices for Recovery: Our Families, Our Stories, Our Recovery.” Participants are invited to sign a Recovery Pledge. The event includes: proclamations, awards, information about local resources, giveaways, refreshments, networking and fellowship. The event is free and open to the public.

SEPTEMBER 13 | “LUNCH AND LEARN” COMMUNITY FORUMS 12 – 1 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Recovery Revolution at 610-599-7700 or info@recoveryrevolution.org
LOCATION: A Clean Slate 100 S. 1st Street Bangor, PA 18013
DESCRIPTION: September is National Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month. On a local level, Recovery Revolution Inc. is excited to be supporting Recovery Month by welcoming all community members to our “Lunch and Learn” Community Forums. These forums are FREE to attend; lunch will be provided. Recovery Revolution’s 9th annual “Lunch and Learn” Forums will be on Three Tuesdays in the Month of September. Each forum will include a 15 minute “Ask a Professional” section at the end of each session. There will be free material and referrals for additional resources. Attend one or attend all. This year’s topics are as follows:
Topic: “Young People Do Recover” with Nicholas Labar

SEPTEMBER 14 | CARBON-MONROE-PIKE DRUG & ALCOHOL COMMISSION’S RECOVERY WALK 4:00 – 7:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Contact person: Jonah Talbott, Phone Number: 570-517-2752
LOCATION: Lehighton Community Grove, 7th & Iron St.; Lehighton, PA
DESCRIPTION: Event will be a brief walk through the neighborhood. There will be guest speakers to talk about recovery issues and resource agencies on hand with information about services in the area. There will be a light picnic following the walk.
SEPTEMBER 16, 2016 | VENANGO COUNTY’S NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH CELEBRATION

CONTACT INFO: Trish Dilbone at pdilbone@fscas.org or email Susan Huffman at shuffman@fscas.org

LOCATION: Next to Court House 1168 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA 16323

DESCRIPTION: Celebration of Recovery for Venango County. Activities include speakers, information tables, Naloxone training, and refreshments. There is no cost, event is open to the public.

SEPTEMBER 16 | SPEAKER/RECOVERY DANCE 7:00 – 11:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION: Rita Wheeler 814.452.4462 x 103 wheeler@mhanp.org

LOCATION: Hosted by Mental Health Association of NW PA 1101 Peach St., Erie, PA 16501

DESCRIPTION: The focus of the Speaker/Recovery Dance is on sharing a recovery lead and having fun with others in a safe and sober environment. The event includes: signing pledges, giveaways, music, refreshments and fellowship. There is a small fee to attend the dance.

SEPTEMBER 17 | PRO-ACT RECOVERY WALK REGISTRATION AT 7:00 AM, GATHER TO WALK AT 8:30 AM, BEGIN WALK AT 9AM

CONTACT INFORMATION: Fred Martin 215-923-1661 fmartin@councilsepa.org

LOCATION: Penns Landing, Philadelphia, PA

DESCRIPTION: Celebrate recovery and work to end the stigma surrounding drug and alcohol addiction. People have been walking in Recovery Walks! to support recovery from drug and alcohol addiction disorders during September’s National Recovery Month for 15 years. We pay taxes, we vote, and we each contribute to our community’s well-being. Together we can eliminate the shame and embarrassment associated with this disease and save lives! Together we can show decision makers that the individuals, families and communities want to end stigma! We can’t afford to be silent anymore. Everyone knows someone in recovery.

SEPTEMBER 17 | LIBERTAE BIKERS AND BABES RIDE 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION: Curtin at 215-639-6861 x219

LOCATION: Registration for the ride is at 5245 Bensalem Blvd, Bensalem, PA 19020 all other festivities will occur at Newportville Fire Company picnic grounds 2425 New Falls Rd. Newportville PA 19056

DESCRIPTION: Registration for the bike ride begins at 8, at Libertae, with a rolling start until 10. Registration fee for ride is $20 and $5 for additional passengers. Car show, music, food and festivities begins at 11:30 am. Cost is $5 dollars for lunch, kids under 5 are free. This portion of the event is held at the Newportville Fire Company picnic grounds.

SEPTEMBER 17 | KAUFFMAN’S KORNER ANNUAL RECOVERY PICNIC 12:00 – 6:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION: Roger at rogerashby@lawsca.swsix.com or (724) 658-5580

LOCATION: Cascade Park E Washington St, New Castle, PA 16101 (pavilions 7 and 8)

DESCRIPTION: This is a FREE event, open to community. Come celebrate National Recovery Month 2016 with fun, food and fellowship. Activities include face painting, speakers and games. Hot dogs and hamburgers provided. Please bring a covered dish of your choice.

SEPTEMBER 17 | RASE PROJECT COMEDY SHOW 5:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION: Britteny Webster at 717-418-1610 or britteyw@raseproject.org

LOCATION: 800 E Park Drive Harrisburg PA 17011

DESCRIPTION: The RASE Project is hosting our National Recovery Month event on September 17. This year we will be holding a dinner and comedy show featuring Jamie Lissow, known recently for his show “Real Rob” on Netflix. This event will be held at the Best Western Premier in Harrisburg, PA and will be begin at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale for $35.00 for a single ticket and $60.00 for two tickets. Please visit our RASE Comedy Show website for updates and additional details at: https://www.facebook.com/RASE-Project-Comedy-Show-1110581638960955/?fref=ts

SEPTEMBER 17 | MESSAGE CARRIERS OF PA: RECOVERY LIGHTS UP THE NIGHT 6:00 – 9:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION: Message Carriers of PA (412) 361-0142

LOCATION: 5907 Penn Ave - Pittsburgh, PA 15206

DESCRIPTION: Please join us for our, 2nd annual recovery light up the night event, as we cruise East Liberty and neighboring communities in support of National Recovery Month. Join us for a family friendly bike ride to promote Health and Wellness as one of the many pathways to Recovery. Illuminate your bikes; we will give out FREE bike reflectors on a first come first serve basis. Registration for this event is FREE, but donate $10 with your registration to receive a T-shirt and a chance to win a bike! To register visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/recovery-lights-up-the-night-tickets-27017199170?aff=es2

SEPTEMBER 18 | 2ND ANNUAL RALLY FOR RECOVERY 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION: Laura Crawford at 504-579-4608 or lockhavenrecoveryrally@outlook.com

LOCATION: Riverview Park Woodward township Lock Haven PA, 17745

DESCRIPTION: Walk/Run, with recovery related activities, a bounce house, guest speakers and a concert featuring Orilino Rocks.
September 20 | Rally in the Rotunda: On PA’s Crisis Drug Epidemic 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Location: Harrisburg State Capitol Building
Description: Please plan on attending the Harrisburg State Capitol for a historic day for Drug and Alcohol. This event will occur separate but simultaneously with the Courage to Change Rally. More information will be forthcoming.

September 20 | Recovery Advocacy Day Courage to Change 10:45 AM to 3 PM
Contact Information: For more information, please email recoveryadvocacy@gmail.com.
You may also contact Ashley Potts at 724-914-8020 or Mike Krafick at 724-354-2746
Location: Harrisburg State Capitol Building
Description: This is a free event, please register at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RZW5H5V. The initial part of the day from 11:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. will be spent doing Legislative visits to share stories of hope and recovery with Legislators. We will meet in Representative Gene DiGiuliano’s office located at 49 East Wing (near the cafeteria) for information about the event, answer any questions that you have, and provide you with tips/talking points for your visits with Legislators. The day will conclude with a Media Event in the Rotunda at 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. There is also an events page for The Recovery Advocacy Day Courage to Change event at: https://www.facebook.com/events/1768136573420721/.

September 20 | “Lunch and Learn” Community Forums 12:00 – 1:00 PM
Contact Information: Recovery Revolution at 610-599-7700 or info@recoveryrevolution.org
Location: A Clean Slate 100 S. 1st Street Bangor, PA 18013
Description: September is National Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month. On a local level, Recovery Revolution Inc. is excited to be supporting Recovery Month by welcoming all community members to our “Lunch and Learn” Community Forums. These forums are FREE to attend; lunch will be provided. Recovery Revolution’s 9th annual “Lunch and Learn” Forums will be on Three Tuesdays in the Month of September. Each forum will include a 15 minute “Ask a Professional” section at the end of each session. There will be free material and referrals for additional resources. Attend one or attend them all. This year’s topics are as follows:
Topic: “Healthy Choices for a Healthy Lifestyle” with Cortney Lambert, MA, CAADC, Certified Personal Trainer

September 21 | Rebound: The Chris Herren Story 7:00 PM
Contact Information: Not One More- York Chapter at 717-424-8890 or 717-850-6350
Location: 1031 Edgecomb Ave, York, PA 17403
Description: Chris Herren, former NBA basketball player and author of Basketball Junkie, presents the harrowing tale of his decent into addiction, a miraculous recovery and his new life mission: to share his story with audiences in the hopes of reaching just one person and making a difference in their life.

September 22 | Drum Circles for Healing: Restoration to Health 6:30 PM
Contact Information: Martha King at 717-968-3083
Location: St. Mark Lutheran Church 129 Charles St. Hanover PA 17331
(please park in parking lot and enter the back red doors into the fellowship hall)
Description: Ages 10 and up. Drumming for personal wellness, healing and creative expression; facilitated by Joe Clark. Join us once a month for a powered-theme session. No prior experience necessary. If you own a drum please bring it to the session, if you don’t we’ll provide one and we have other percussion instruments as well. Preregistration is required.

September 22 | Generation Found Screening 7:30 PM
Contact Information: John Gailey, Chair of Chester County Chapter or Cindy Wanamaker at wanamaker1@comcast.net
Location: 100 Quarry Rd Downingtown, PA 19335
Description: Showing of documentary, Generation Found. Tickets are $12, visit http://gathr.us/screening/15611
From the creators of the groundbreaking film, THE ANONYMOUS PEOPLE, comes GENERATION FOUND, a powerful story about one community coming together to ignite a youth addiction recovery revolution in their hometown. Devastated by an epidemic of addiction, Houston faced the reality of burying and locking up its young people at an alarming rate. And so in one of the largest cities in America, visionary counselors, law school dropouts, aspiring rock musicians, retired football players, oil industry executives, and church leaders came together to build the world’s largest peer-driven youth and family recovery community. Independently filmed over the course of two years, GENERATION FOUND takes an unprecedented and intimate look at how a system of treatment centers, sober high schools, alternative peer groups, and collegiate recovery programs can exist in concert to intervene early and provide a real and tested long-term alternative to the “War on Drugs.” It is not only a deeply personal story, but one with real-world utility for communities struggling with addiction worldwide.
For more information on this documentary visit http://generationfoundfilm.com/#home.
SEPTEMBER 22 | THE ANONYMOUS PEOPLE MOVIE SHOWING 12:00 – 1:20 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Teri K. at tpk12@psu.edu
LOCATION: Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus 2809 Saucon Valley Rd, Center Valley, PA 18034; room 135
DESCRIPTION: A showing of the documentary film, The Anonymous People.
This FREE event is open to current Penn State students and staff as well as Penn State Alum.

SEPTEMBER 23 | RECOVERY CELEBRATION 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Crossroads Recovery Center at 610-429-1702 or Jenna Mercadante at the VA Medical Center at 610-384-7711 ext. 2252
LOCATION: 1400 Blackhorse Hill Road, Coatsville, PA 19320
DESCRIPTION: This collaborative event is open to the public. Family members are encouraged to attend for information to support their loved one in recovery. Special emphasis will be on bridging the gap between families and recovery. This is a FREE community event that includes musical performances, an interactive drumming program, door prizes, food & local resources, Q&A time, and information to support individuals and families

SEPTEMBER 23 | RECOVERY CELEBRATION 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Cheryl Nelson or Judith Stine at 814-724-4100
LOCATION: 903 Diamond Park Meadville PA 16335
DESCRIPTION: As part of the 2016 September National Recovery Month, Gaudenzia Erie, Inc. will be hosting a 19th Annual Race for Recovery. To register visit http://www.erieraceforrecovery.com/register.html. Tee-shirts for racers are on a first come first serve basis and cannot be guaranteed after 9/16. Pre-registration is suggested. Entry Fees are as follows: $10.00 - One Mile Run/Walk, $20.00 - 5k Run/Walk, and $25.00 - 15K.

SEPTEMBER 24 | JUST FOR TODAY WALK FOR RECOVERY 9:00 – 10:00 AM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Steve B. 717-880-8068
LOCATION: Logan Park 172 Logan Road Dillsburg, PA 17019
DESCRIPTION: Registration begins 9 AM, walk begins at 10 AM, lunch at noon. Walk to raise awareness for recovery with the 3rd annual Just for Today Walk for Recovery. Free food is provided. Donations are welcome, all proceeds go to JFT Recovery and Veteran’s Services. Tee-shirts are for sale or free with donation of $25.

SEPTEMBER 24 | DAUPHIN COUNTY 2ND ANNUAL RECOVERY DAY EVENT 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: 717-635-2254
LOCATION: Harrisburg East Mall Parking Lot by Macy’s
DESCRIPTION: RECOVERY DAY on Saturday, September 24th, from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm (RECOVERY WALK at 9:00 am), at the Harrisburg Mall, near Macy’s Department Store Parking Lot, for a day of Family, Fun, Entertainment, Free Food & Prizes; Connections to a variety of resources, services, and job opportunities and more, as we “Rediscover How To Recover.”

SEPTEMBER 24 | TAG RECOVERY WALK 12:00 – 4:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: 724-762-6507
LOCATION: Riverfront Park Kittanning, PA
DESCRIPTION: The Advocacy Group (TAG) for Addiction Recovery celebrates its 10th year anniversary with their annual Recovery Walk. Activities include music, food, dunking booth, face painting, recovery time countdown, and an approximate 2 mile walk through downtown Kittanning. Registration is $10 which includes a T-Shirt. For more information and event updates LIKE and visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/theadvocacygroup/

SEPTEMBER 24 | THE ADDICTS MOM: WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA LIGHTS OF HOPE WALK 6:00 – 8:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Visit https://www.facebook.com/events/1872104046350405/
LOCATION: Renfrew Park 1010 E. Main St. Waynesboro, PA 17268
DESCRIPTION: OUR TRADITIONAL LIGHTS OF HOPE IS OUR OPPORTUNITY AND OUR RIGHT TO HONOR AND SUPPORT OUR LOVED ONES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE STAGES OF RECOVERY.
We do this by lighting three candles – a white candle for those in recovery, a black candle for those who have lost a loved one to addiction, and a red candle for those who are in active addiction.
SEPTEMBER 27 | RECOVERY WORKS! SUMMIT 7:00 AM – 4:30 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: recoveryworkssummit@pro-a.org or patti.b@pro-a.org
LOCATION: A Clean Slate 100 S. 1st Street, Bangor, PA 18013
DESCRIPTION: Register at http://recoveryworkssummit.com/register/index.html. The Recovery Works Summit is an exciting and historic opportunity to bring together the mental health and drug and alcohol recovery communities. People in recovery, providers of behavioral health services and policy makers will come together to strengthen our collective voices, use our talents and experiences to expand employment opportunities, unite our voices on advocacy issues and eliminate stigma and discrimination. The Summit will focus on three ways to improve recovery success:
- Increase public awareness of the value of recovery
- Explore challenges and inspirations in training, employment and career pathways
- Inform public policy on peer based recovery support services
This work will be done through keynote speaker presentations, panel discussions, workshops, a plenary session and networking. Please join us as we use our lived experience to improve our systems and change lives through recovery and new opportunities across our Pennsylvania communities. To view the Summit agenda please visit http://recoveryworkssummit.com/agenda/index.html

SEPTEMBER 27 | “LUNCH AND LEARN” COMMUNITY FORUMS 12:00 – 1:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Recovery Revolution at 610-599-7700 or info@recoveryrevolution.org
LOCATION: A Clean Slate 100 S. 1st Street, Bangor, PA 18013
DESCRIPTION: September is National Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month. On a local level, Recovery Revolution Inc. is excited to be supporting Recovery Month by welcoming all community members to our “Lunch and Learn” Community Forums. These forums are FREE to attend; lunch will be provided. Recovery Revolution’s 9th annual “Lunch and Learn” Forums will be on Three Tuesdays in the Month of September. Each forum will include a 15 minute “Ask a Professional” section at the end of each session. There will be free material and referrals for additional resources. Attend one or attend them all. This year’s topics are as follows:
Topic: “Loved one Addicted... How can I help?” Carol Geedman, BA, CADC, CCS- Family Counselor at RR

SEPTEMBER 27 | GAUDENZIA PALIO RECOVERY AWARENESS PICNIC 5:00 PM TO DUSK
CONTACT INFORMATION: Carolee Lee 570-573-0192
LOCATION: Shikellamy State Park- Island Park (marina)
DESCRIPTION: This is a FREE event. Family style picnic to raise awareness for recovery rural PA. There will be a keynote speaker. Bring a covered dish if you’d like.

SEPTEMBER 28 | 2016 CASE MANGEMENT CONFERENCE AND VENDOR FAIR 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Tom Stark at (717) 736-4703 or by email at tstark@pacounties.org
LOCATION: Toftrees Resort in State College 1 Country Club Ln, State College, PA 16803
DESCRIPTION: The Pennsylvania Association of County Drug and Alcohol Administrators (PACDAA) invites you to take part in its 2016 Case Management Conference and Vendor Fair. Our association is composed of Single County Authorities representing all 67 counties of the commonwealth. The registration fee for conference attendees for one day is $100 and for two days is $125. For more information, http://www.pacdaa.org/Pages/2016cmc.aspx. Vendor registration fees are $200.00 for one person and $50.00 for each additional staff member. For more information, http://www.pacdaa.org/Pages/2016cmcvs.aspx

SEPTEMBER 28 | MESSAGE CARRIERS OF PA: TOWN HALL MEETING 6:00 – 8:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Message Carriers of PA at (412) 361-0142
LOCATION: Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - East Liberty 130 S. Whitfield St. Pittsburgh PA 15206
DESCRIPTION: Please join us as we bring together members of the community with elected officials, public leaders and persons in long term recovery. This opportunity will educate individuals on what we can do collectively to combat the opiate epidemic, to find solutions to the epidemic and find ways we can navigate the system to overcome barriers that impede one’s ability to receive services. This is a FREE event, open to the public. Speakers include: State Representative Edward “Ed” Gainey US Attorney David Hickton; Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Press Secretary, Jason Snyder; Carol Ramsey and a speaker on MAT is to be announced

SEPTEMBER 29 | 2016 CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE AND VENDOR FAIR 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Tom Stark at (717) 736-4703 or by email at tstark@pacounties.org
LOCATION: Toftrees Resort in State College 1 Country Club Ln, State College, PA 16803
DESCRIPTION: The Pennsylvania Association of County Drug and Alcohol Administrators (PACDAA) invites you to take part in its 2016 Case Management Conference and Vendor Fair. Our association is composed of Single County Authorities representing all 67 counties of the commonwealth. The registration fee for conference attendees for one day is $100 and for two days is $125. For more information, http://www.pacdaa.org/Pages/2016cmc.aspx. Vendor registration fees are $200.00 for one person and $50.00 for each additional staff member. For more information, http://www.pacdaa.org/Pages/2016cmcvs.aspx

SEPTEMBER 30 | KAUFFMAN’S KORNER REMEMBRANCE AND CELEBRATORY LIGHT-UP THE NIGHT 9:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION: Charlie Olinger at (724)658-5580
LOCATION: Kauffman’s Korner 20 E. Washington St. New Castle PA 16101
DESCRIPTION: 3rd Annual light-up the night, in memory or in celebration of a loved one, attendees can purchase a Chinese lantern for $2.00. Tickets for your lantern can be purchased at Kauffman’s Korner. All proceeds will go to support the center, family events and their work within the community. At 9 PM lanterns will be lit and released to light-up the night.
PRO•A staff were able to attend the Faces & Voices Association of Recovery Community Organizations (ARCO) Leadership meeting in Arlington Virginia in July. ARCO unites and supports the growing network of local, regional and statewide recovery community organizations (RCOs) across the United States. ARCO also links RCOs and their leaders with local and national allies and provides training and technical assistance to groups. ARCO helps build the unified voice of the organized recovery community and fulfill our shared commitment to support the development of new groups and strengthening existing ones.

ARCO is definitely on the radar of national policy leaders, as several policy makers came out to meet with us to brief us on various policy matters and to hear from us on issues impacting our community nationally. These leaders included SAMSHA officials Tom Coderre, Tom Hill and Jean Bennett. During the Leadership Academy, Recovery Community leaders reviewed and provided feedback on our policy agenda to move America forward and help make recovery a reality for more people in our communities.

This year, recovery communities from across the nation met to discuss how far we have come with the passage of the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act (CARA) and our many other goals to organize the recovery movement. While recognizing the steps we’ve taken in the right direction we also discussed plans of what our next steps should be. Out of this discussion came the Faces and Voices of Recovery public policy committee that will work to move forward a public policy agenda that supports recovery for all Americans. PRO•A Executive Director, William Stauffer is honored to have been asked to be co-chair of this important committee.

America Honors Recovery is the Faces & Voices of Recovery's annual awards gala. Each year, the gala celebrates and honors the nation's most influential recovery community leaders and organizations. The event salutes the legacies of three dynamic recovery trailblazers who dedicated their lives to removing barriers for individuals and families affected by addiction - Dr. Vernon E. Johnson and recovery advocates Joel Hernandez and Lisa Mojer-Torres. This year's event was held at the National Press Club on July 11th, to recognize the 2016 nominees.

At this year’s gala, the Pennsylvania Recovery Community Organization RASE Project was awarded the Joel Hernandez Award. The Joel Hernandez Award recognizes one local, state or regional recovery community organization for its success in assessing the specific needs of their community and carrying out a vision and mission of mobilizing resources within and outside the recovery community to increase the prevalence and quality of long-term recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. The RASE Project has done amazing work in several communities across Central PA. To learn more about the RASE Project, go to their web site at http://www.raseproject.org and get involved! Also, SAMHSAs Marsha Baker received a special award as it was announced that she is leaving SAMSHA to move to Italy. This award honored her for her service to support the development of recovery organizations across America; she will be greatly missed!

Are you a new Recovery Community Organization who is interested in joining the Faces & Voices Association of Recovery Community Organizations (ARCO)? Contact PRO•A at 717-545-8929 for information on a special offer to join ARCO for a reduced membership fee for the first year!

RECOVERY IS HOPE

National Recovery Month has an overarching meaning of hope. There is so much hope to be found in a group of people who despite all odds never gave up. All that we have are gifts of recovery and this month is a reminder of that, should I ever forget. The awareness and excitement that builds around recovery month rekindles my flame of hope that can sometimes dwindle on hard days and long months throughout the year.

It is an honor to be a face and a voice of the recovering community, especially during this month as other community members deservedly pay more attention to the disease. The events held during this month are a great opportunity to meet other faces and voices of our predecessors and newcomers alike. Seeing a wide spectrum of recovery at National Recovery Month events refuels that gift of desperation that started the journey to where I am today.

This month is dedicated to those in or seeking recovery. It reminds me that I am not alone. We are not alone. It reminds me that I am not terminally unique, but that I am beautiful. I am loved. Recently I stumbled upon a quote, by The Sober Life, that represents what National Recovery Month means to me. “In the most hopeless part of our lives, we found hope. The miracle of sobering up is a testament to the courage and fortitude of our people. We are walking miracles, the dead breathing new life.”

With faith, hope, gratitude,
Sara B. Berdanier, person in long-term recovery, RASE Project Recovery Specialist
As part of the 2016 September National Recovery Month, Gaudenzia Erie, Inc. will be lacing-up for its 19th Annual Race for Recovery on Saturday, September 24, 2016. Gaudenzia Erie, Inc. is known for its exceptional care for treating those who suffer from drug and alcohol addiction(s) but also boasts a 19 year-long 15k, 5k race and fun run. This year the Race introduces a cycling element in anticipation for the Gaudenzia, Inc. 50th Anniversary.

In 1997, a small group of running enthusiasts along with Gaudenzia Erie staffers engineered this fundraising idea called, “Run Around Erie—for a drug and crime free Erie” to benefit Gaudenzia Erie, Inc. It was originally held in downtown Erie but then moved to Erie’s Presque Isle. “There were three goals that the race committee developed at its inception,” according to Jeff Shaw, Gaudenzia Erie, Inc. Advisory Board member.

1. **Raise Awareness**—to educate the public on the tendency to use drugs, drug abuse in general and to begin the discussion on accessing help
2. **Fundraiser**—to do an annual fundraiser in support of Gaudenzia Erie’s mission
3. **Fun Event**—to be competitive, fun and inclusive for everyone

It became more difficult to maintain in the city so it was moved to the sandy beaches of Presque Isle for September to honor National Recovery Month. There is only one other 15K in Erie and that runs in May. “We try and have a quality, competitive event that is all-inclusive,” said Shaw.

Nineteen years later the Race known today as the “Race for Recovery” continues to be a great philanthropic, community-wide event. All of the monies raised go towards helping Gaudenzia Erie clients who are in need of drug and alcohol recovery services and programs. More than 47,000 Americans died of drug overdoses in 2014, exceeding the number killed in car accidents, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sixty-one percent of the deaths involved opioids, mainly prescription painkillers and heroin. The rate of deaths from overdoses grew 6.5 percent from 2013 and 13.7 percent since 2000.

As a new addition to the Race, the cycling event called the “Palio” will storm out of the gates and finish in Harrisburg. Each year since medieval times, the Palio horse race is held in Siena, Italy. Giorgio Terni is a starry-eyed young man who dreams of becoming a horse trainer and riding in the Palio. His story and working in the field inspired another young man who works for Gaudenzia, Inc.

“I’ve seen the tremendous obstacles those in recovery overcome. The idea to marry a bicycle ride and a recovery awareness event occurred,” said George Weller a Gaudenzia, Inc. addictions counselor and an avid cyclist.

This year’s Race and Palio will showcase a couple VIP cyclists including Weller as an introduction to the upcoming Gaudenzia, Inc. anniversary celebration. In 2018, this Olympian-style 50th anniversary will fully integrate the Race and Palio event beginning in Northwestern PA through Sunbury and final festivities in Philadelphia with a fireball of festivities.

Shaw ended on this note. “Any opportunity to experience beautiful Presque Isle, with the combination of running and cycling are all great!” Visit www.erieraceforrecovery.com to sign up and find out more about this exciting National Recovery Month activity.

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