



## **21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act Recovery Community Organization Service Priorities**

Through a process facilitated by Faces and Voices of Recovery the national recovery organization, PRO-A sent out an assessment tool examining recovery support services to 43 recovery oriented organizations across the state of Pennsylvania.

As background, an assessment tool was developed by SAMSHA and discussed in a national call of Faces and Voices of Recovery by Tom Coderre Chief of Staff of SAMSHA and Tom Hill, Special Assistant to the Director of SAMHSA. It was asked that state network RCOs send the tool out to RCOs in their respective states and then share them with policymakers in January 2017.

We then conducted a consensus building process, and we developed the following four recommendations intended to be considered for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act of 2016, which will provide over 50 million dollars over 2 years to the state of Pennsylvania to fight the Opioid epidemic. This is the result of our process:

1. Strengthen our capacity to serve persons with Opiate Dependencies by establishing a statewide system of care in urban, suburban and rural communities across Pennsylvania for peer recovery support services for individuals, families and communities, before, during and after formal treatment processes for a minimum of the first five years of sustained recovery.
2. Develop Recovery High Schools / Collegiate recovery programs with Alternative Peer Groups (APGs) regionally across the state in order to target opiate dependency services to obtain, sustain and support recovery for our young people for a minimum of the first 5 years of sustained recovery.
3. Increase retention and development of our peer workforce statewide to increase and strengthen our capacity in response to the opiate epidemic. This is to include examination of compensation, administrative protocols and drug and alcohol peer recovery support supervision standards.
4. Develop a statewide system for the certification of quality recovery houses and operators to include adolescent and special population housing infrastructure development and training for house operators to support recovery from opiate dependencies.

On Behalf of RCOs and community recovery advocates across Pennsylvania, thank you for considering our priorities.

Bill Stauffer, LSW  
Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations – Alliance (PRO-A)  
900 S Arlington Ave, Suite 254 A  
Harrisburg, Pa 17109  
<http://pro-a.org/>

Web site: [www.pro-a.org](http://www.pro-a.org)

Twitter Feed: <https://twitter.com/PAREcoveryOrg>

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