



# QUARTERLY report



## Rally in the Valley Rocks the Lehigh Valley

Volume 19, No. 3 | 2017

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, a group of dedicated advocates under the leadership of Chris Jacob, Tamra McGee, and Laura Waits brought together members of the recovery community, community supporters, recovery community organizations, treatment providers, musicians and family organizations to highlight the many strengths that accompany a recovering lifestyle. The committee members who carried out this vision included Laura Cunningham, Travis Snyder, Deb Eckroth, Tim Connors, Peggy Douglass, Robert Bedford, Kathi Oswald, Diana Heckman and Jordan Scott.

The Rally in the Valley was covered by the media and included radio, television and print coverage. This group of very dedicated volunteers organized the event over many months and succeeded beyond any expectations in their objective to show that *recovery must be celebrated, not stigmatized, and that recovery is something that our entire community can come together to support.*

*Continued on page 3*

### RECOVERY MONTH EVENTS CALENDAR STARTING ON PAGE 10!

## You Are Invited to National Recovery Month Kick-Off... Sept. 6 at Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg

*By Carol Gifford, Communications Director, PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs*

National Recovery Month in September is the time to celebrate all those living in long-term recovery, and encourage those considering and in treatment to think of the future and a life free of substance misuse.

The 2017 theme is *Join the Voices for Recovery: Strengthen Families and Communities*. Recovery Month, as noted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), celebrates the accomplishments of people whose lives have been transformed through recovery.

“Many Pennsylvanians are affected by substance use disorders; one in four people are touched by SUDs, either suffering with the disease themselves or knowing an affected family member or friend,” said Jennifer Smith, acting secretary of the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. “We want to make people aware of the power of recovery.”

“National Recovery Month is the time to promote the message: treatment works and recovery is possible. Many of those affected live in long-term recovery, and often want to share the good news with those who may be struggling to make it to recovery.”



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900 South Arlington Avenue, Suite 254A  
Harrisburg, PA 17109 . 1014

1.800.858.6040 Toll Free • 717.545.8929 • 717.545.9163 Fax  
proa.asst@pro-a.org • www.pro-a.org

The PRO•A newsletter is a publication of the Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance. The newsletter is published four times a year and sent to recipients in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and surrounding states.

Newsletters are mailed in February, May, August & November.

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PRO.A is now on FACEBOOK –  
"like" us at [www.facebook.com/  
PaRecoveryOrganizationAlliance](http://www.facebook.com/PaRecoveryOrganizationAlliance)



# PEER SUPERVISION Competencies

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations and the Pennsylvania Certification Board hosted a meeting with certified recovery specialists and supervisors of certified recovery specialists to begin to identify core competencies for drug and alcohol peer supervision. The process included a review of the literature on peer supervision and working through draft core competencies tasks, knowledge and skills necessary for the provision of competent peer supervision and examining their fit with drug and alcohol recovery support services in Pennsylvania. The group worked very well together through the process, led by the Pennsylvania Certification Board, which finalized the core competency document in mid-July. The work of this group will help to inform the development of core competencies and to develop training for peer supervision, to improve the quality of supervision to our peer workers statewide.

View the peer supervision competencies on the PRO•A Issues and Updates page at <http://pro-a.org/category/news> or at <https://www.pacertboard.org>.

# CRS credential update

*By Mary Jo Mather, Executive Director*

Effective April 1, 2017, the CRS credential has a new requirement of lived experience for all applicants. All those currently holding a current and valid CRS are not affected by this new requirement. New CRS candidates must sign an attestation of 18 months in a continuous manner of personal, lived recovery experience. Further, new CRS candidates must also provide written responses to four questions about their personal lived experience. The questions are contained within the CRS application. Questions about the new requirement can be directed to PCB at [info@pacertboard.org](mailto:info@pacertboard.org).

PCB is also pleased to announce that work will begin soon on an SUD family peer recovery specialist credential that will be similar in nature to the CRS, but for family members. PRO•A is working with the PCB on this initiative. More information will be forthcoming. The new family peer credential should be available in early 2018.

# PCB

# Rally in the Valley Rocks the Lehigh Valley

Continued from page 1

The Rally in the Valley, which was held on the grounds of Cedar Crest College in Allentown, PA, brought together organizations and community members from across Eastern Pennsylvania to highlight the common ground in recovery for those who struggle with addiction, mental health complications, and health and wellness issues.

Nationally recognized recovery advocate John Shinholser, best known for his involvement in the movie *The Anonymous People*, came out to participate in the event. He also came out the day before the event to visit Lehigh County Jail along with Chris Jacob of Pyramid Healthcare and William Stauffer of PRO•A. The three met with inmates and shared experience, strength and hope, and challenged them to focus on the strength of recovery in order to change lives. Shinholser called the Rally in the Valley event the best organized first year recovery event that he had ever seen.

The first annual Rally in the Valley was an amazing success. Hundreds of people spent the day in a celebration with food, fun, music, speakers and local vendors - and the common purpose of coming together to celebrate the power of recovery. Planning is currently underway for the second annual Rally in the Valley, and the organizers are looking to expand support so that year two is an even bigger success.

For more information on how to get involved in next year's event, please email [rallyinthevalleypa@gmail.com](mailto:rallyinthevalleypa@gmail.com), or contact any of the following individuals:

**Tamra McGee, Pyramid Healthcare,  
Assistant Director of Marketing**

Mobile: (215)896-2844 or email: [tmcgee@pyramidhc.com](mailto:tmcgee@pyramidhc.com)

**Chris Jacob, Pyramid Healthcare,  
Mobile and Intervention Services Coordinator**

Phone: (610)434- 1126 Ext. 3504, Mobile: (267)897-5961, or email: [cjacob@pyramidhc.com](mailto:cjacob@pyramidhc.com)

**Laura Waits, Synchronicity Recovery Foundation,  
Board President**

Mobile: (215)892-3658 or email: [syncrecovery@gmail.com](mailto:syncrecovery@gmail.com)

**Laura Cunningham, New Vitae Wellness and Recovery,  
Marketing Coordinator**

Phone: (610)965-9021 Ext. 247 or email: [lcunningham@newvitaewellness.com](mailto:lcunningham@newvitaewellness.com)



Lead Organizer, Chris Jacob,  
John Shinholser  
and William Stauffer

PRO•A Executive Director  
and Master of Ceremony,  
William Stauffer



Award recipient,  
Gary Tennis



Guest Speaker  
John Shinholser



Event Attendee and  
John Shinholser



Scott Marshall & Marshall's Highway

# THE VALUE OF PEERS FOR SUPPORTING RECOVERY FROM SUBSTANCE USE

*“Peer support helped me see that I was not hopeless. It gave me my voice back and bolstered my self-worth.”*  
—Michelle

*“When I needed someone to walk beside me, peer support was there.”*  
—Steve



BRINGING RECOVERY SUPPORTS TO SCALE  
Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS)

## WHAT ARE PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES?

Peer recovery support services,<sup>1</sup> delivered by peer recovery coaches, are one form of peer support. They involve the process of giving and receiving non-clinical assistance to support long-term recovery from substance use disorders. A peer recovery coach brings the lived experience of recovery, combined with training and supervision, to assist others in initiating and maintaining recovery, helping to enhance the quality of personal and family life in long-term recovery (White, 2009). Peer recovery support services can support or be an alternative to clinical treatment for substance use disorders.

Peer-based recovery supports are part of an emerging transformation of systems and services addressing substance use disorders. They are

essential ingredients in developing a recovery-oriented system in which clinical treatment plays an important, but singular, role. Acute care substance use treatment without other recovery supports has often not been sufficient in helping individuals to maintain long-term recovery. Substance use disorders are currently understood to be chronic conditions that require long-term management, like diabetes. Peer-based recovery support provides a range of person-centered and strength-based supports for long-term recovery management. These supports help people in recovery build *recovery capital*—the internal and external resources necessary to begin and maintain recovery (Best & Laudet, 2010; Cloud & Granfield, 2008).

## WHAT DO PEER RECOVERY COACHES DO?

Peer recovery coaches walk side by side with individuals seeking recovery from substance use disorders. They help people to create their own recovery plans, and develop their own recovery pathways.

Recovery coaches provide many different types of support, including

-  **emotional** (empathy and concern)
-  **informational** (connections to information and referrals to community resources that support health and wellness)
-  **instrumental** (concrete supports such as housing or employment)
-  **affiliational support** (connections to recovery community supports, activities, and events)

Recovery plans and other supports are customized, and build on each individual's strengths, needs, and recovery goals.

Peer recovery support focuses on long-term recovery and is rooted in a culture of hope, health, and wellness. The focus of long-term peer recovery support goes beyond the reduction or elimination of symptoms to encompass self-actualization, community and civic engagement, and overall wellness.

The unique relationship between the peer recovery coach and the individual in or seeking recovery is grounded in trust, and focused on providing the individual with tools, resources, and support to achieve long-term recovery.

Peer recovery coaches work in a range of settings, including recovery community centers, recovery residences, drug courts and other criminal justice settings, hospital emergency departments, child welfare agencies, homeless shelters, and behavioral health and primary care settings. In addition to providing the range of support encompassed in the peer recovery coach role, they take an active role in outreach and engagement within these settings.

1. Peer recovery support services, peer-delivered recovery support, and peer-based recovery support are used interchangeably.

# IS PEER RECOVERY COACHING EFFECTIVE?

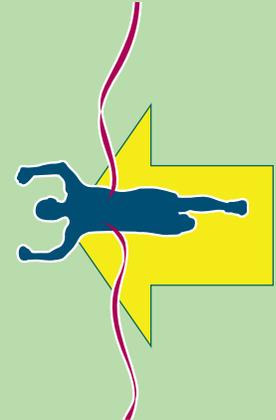
People who have worked with peer recovery coaches provide strong testimonies of the positive impacts of peer recovery support on their own recovery journeys. The research supports these experiences. While the body of research

is still growing, there is mounting evidence that people receiving peer recovery coaching show reductions in substance use, improvements on a range of recovery outcomes, or both. Two rigorous systematic reviews examined the body

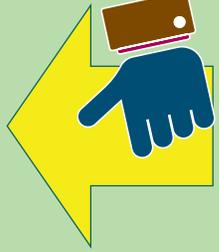
of published research on the effectiveness of peer-delivered recovery supports published between 1995 and 2014. Both concluded that there is a positive impact on participants (Bassuk, Hanson, Greene, Richard, & Laudet, 2016; Reif et al., 2014).

More rigorous studies are needed to better understand the key elements of successful peer recovery support, especially as the field moves toward adopting evidence-based practices. Taken as a whole, the current body of research suggests that people receiving peer recovery support may experience:

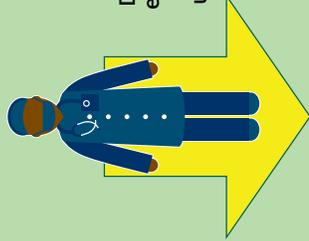
Improved relationship with treatment providers



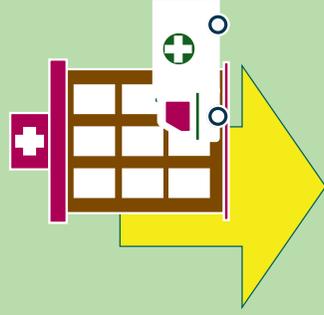
Increased treatment retention



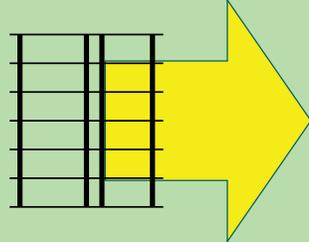
Increased satisfaction with the overall treatment experience



Decreased emergency service utilization



Reduced re-hospitalization rates



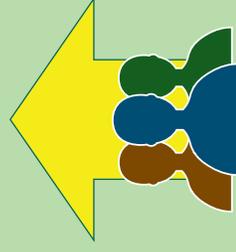
Decreased criminal justice involvement



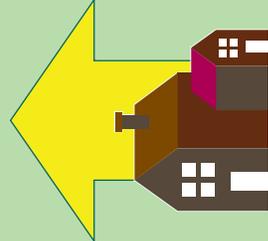
Reduced relapse rates



Reduced substance use



Improved access to social supports



Greater housing stability

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# National Recovery Month Kick-Off...

Continued from page 1

Celebrate the start of National Recovery Month by attending the statewide kick-off ceremony set for 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 6, in the Main Rotunda of the Capitol, Harrisburg. The event will include an address by Governor Tom Wolf, and several other speakers, including people in recovery, and entertainment. There will be a photo station for those living in recovery and those supporting recovery in Pennsylvania to take pictures and have their picture taken. The event is free. "We want to spread the good news – in the face of this terrible opioid epidemic, people enter treatment and continue to live in recovery," said Smith. "Recovery is possible, and we can show you how to get there: from reversing overdoses with naloxone to keep people alive; providing access to a PA helpline, 1-800-662-HELP, where people can call toll-free, 24/7, to speak with a person to find a detox bed, treatment options, and more; and completing treatment and living with recovery supports. We have help available."

Check out the many events scheduled throughout the state – with many likely happening in your community – on PRO•A's calendar at <http://pro-a.org/calendar/>

Please help spread the word – reach out and invite others to attend the kick-off event and share the good news of recovery in your community. A toolkit, provided by SAMHSA, provides information, suggested activities, resources, and graphics.

"We encourage people to attend our Recovery Month state kick-off on September 6 in Harrisburg," said Smith. "We want to help end the stigma about substance use disorder. People with the disease can recover and live full lives in long-term recovery. Help us spread that message and continue to provide recovery supports to those in our communities."

## #PArecovers

When I joined Philadelphia's Chapter of Young People in Recovery (YPR) this year, I did not know what to expect. All I knew is I wanted to take my recovery to the next level. I found myself in a room full of individuals in recovery who refused to be anonymous, and I really admired that.

For those of you who don't know, YPR is a think tank. We develop ways to improve the lives of those living with Substance Use Disorder. We educate individuals, families, and communities about the disease of addiction and the different pathways to recovery. Not only do we promote recovery on college campuses, but at high schools as well. YPR is highly involved with Philadelphia's first Recovery High School, The Bridge Way School. YPR also played a role in the implementation of Act 139, also known as the Good Samaritan Law. This law has reduced the number of deaths related to overdoses in Pennsylvania. Whether we are advocating for a new policy or just helping another person get another day clean, we are constantly working to build a recovery culture in Philadelphia. By helping others, we maintain our own recovery. Take Devin Reaves for example, a member of YPR for over 4 years, Devin has played a major role in the recovery community. If Devin's not in Harrisburg advocating for public policy, he's in Philadelphia connecting people with resources.

We encourage others in recovery to join our movement or any movement that you feel comfortable with. If you are struggling or know someone who is struggling with Substance Use Disorder, please reach out! As one of the newest members of YPR I can tell you how passionate my team is. YPR is more than just a grassroots movement or a place to volunteer, it is a lifestyle. We are a group of passionate recovery advocates eager to improve our communities and save lives. Our mission is to support young people in or seeking recovery by empowering them. We are strong, stronger than ever before, and we are not going anywhere!

Sean Garraty, BSW , MSW Candidate '18 Temple University YPR Philadelphia Communications Lead

The RASE Project's mission as a Recovery Community Organization (RCO), comprised entirely of staff and volunteers from the Recovery Community, is to assist all those individuals affected by substance use issues, problems, and concerns by fostering progress, enriching lives, and ultimately enhancing the recovery process. RASE stands for Recovery, Advocacy, Service & Empowerment. As an RCO, we believe in multiple pathways to recovery and meeting participants where they're at.

Through the programs offered, we put the welfare of those in or seeking recovery first. We believe that when an individual recovers, their family and the community at large recovers with them. Within the programs, there remains the common thread of recovery coaching and peer support which is ultimately how we guide participants to reach and maintain their recovery. The goal is to work ourselves out of a job by assisting participants to a self-sufficient stage where they have repaired the wreckage of their active addiction and achieved their goals. Through recovery planning unique to our agency we focus not just on abstinence, but on full spectrum recovery.

Continued on next page



There is an unspoken power in people in sustained recovery working with other recovering individuals. We hold a common bond that is unique to RCOs. We believe that recovery is an everyday process and encourage that year-round by hosting and participating in recovery related events. This engages participants and community members to see that there is fun to be had in recovery. Saturday, September 9, we will be hosting our 6th annual Comedy Show in celebration of National Recovery Month to continue raising awareness. "Don't look back, you're not going that way." Learn more at [www.raseproject.org](http://www.raseproject.org).



Sara Berdanier, BA, RASE Project, Vivitrol Coordinator | Brittney Webster, CRS, Dauphin County Group Facilitator

## Three winners in the 2016 International "In My Own Words..." Essay Contest

The Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) Network Coordinating Office, in partnership with Faces & Voices of Recovery and Facing Addiction, announced the top three winners of the 2016 International "In My Own Words..." Essay Contest. The 2016 essay contest focused on the use of positive, non-stigmatizing and "person first" language for individuals in recovery from substance use and/or mental health disorders. The winners are: Jennifer Colon (Williamsport, PA), First Place, Jennifer Whitehead (Salem, NJ), Second Place, Sharon Leftwich (Martinsville, VA) Third Place

My name is Jennifer Colon and I am a woman in long term recovery from alcohol and substance use disorder. What this means to me is that I have not used alcohol or drugs since January 29, 2012. My life, before my recovery journey, could be described as a challenging and desperate time. I was born into a family with undiagnosed and untreated substance use and mental health disorders. My mother prior to my birth witnessed the suicide of her father in the late stages of his battle with alcoholism.

I am speaking out about my recovery because I believe that no family should have to be ashamed or face the countless barriers that exist with addiction, ultimately tearing families apart. I believe that recovery heals families and changes lives immensely. After cycling in and out foster care, mental health institutions, and the criminal justice system I realize that this is a disease that only love and compassion can effectively treat.

Recovery has changed my life in many ways and it was only made possible by the opportunity I received to participate on The Lycoming County Treatment Court Program. Today I am a caregiver, college student, voter and an Alumni. I maintain my recovery by utilizing faith based organizations, helping others, 12 steps, and by participating in activities such as writing and animal rescue.

### Recovery Essay

I want to use my recovery journey to inspire others and to remind them that you are not alone. I am facing the stigma and the barriers that have held my family in the dark and it has become my passion. Today with this great recovery movement taking shape and moving swiftly, I can boldly say that I am no longer ashamed of my illness. I can also say that, with a great fire, I love my life, myself, and my recovery!

Jennifer Colon, December 16, 2016

### Recovery Happens - a New Way

Recovery Community Connection, a recovery community organization (RCO), is a long-term recovery resource and advocacy center Located in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. My name is Jennifer Colon and I am a woman in long-term recovery from Substance Use and Mental Health Disorder, a journey that began over 5 years ago. I am grateful to be of service to the community in which I live. Recovery Community Connection's new presence will encourage an atmosphere of hope and connection within our community. I started Recovery Community Connection, a grassroots organization, because as a person in long-term recovery I noticed that the diversity of sustainable, long-term recovery supports was very limited in my community.

Currently located at 1400 Market Street, Recovery Community Connection formed in May of 2017 and began advocating for long-term recovery resources. An ongoing screening campaign of the movie *Generation Found* began on June 3 and on June 5 a quiet opening took place with offering free Monday night peer support groups. After being identified as an RCO, Recovery Community Connection was given a valuable resource, a Certified Recovery Specialist training to offer peers in our community as well. The new year will hold a new day for R.C.C. as we are planning to announce an official opening.

Recovery Community Connection will continue to enhance the Recovery Oriented System of Care by providing new, diverse, supports, and resources as they become available. We will continue with our mission that envisions communities where recovery is accurately supported, integrated, and nurtured.

Jennifer Colon, Executive Director, Recovery Community Connection  
[Recoverycommunityconnection.com](http://Recoverycommunityconnection.com) | [jennifer@recoverycommunityconnection.org](mailto:jennifer@recoverycommunityconnection.org) | (272) 202-0867

Continued on page 8

# Call to Action: DDAP wants to share your stories of recovery as part of Pennsylvania's National Recovery Month in September

Please visit, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PARECOVERS> to share your story of recovery.

Your story of overcoming alcohol or substance use disorders or conditions should include your treatment and recovery journey and what you have done with your life in recovery.

Please provide any advice you may have that could be helpful to others on the same journey.

DDAP will share these stories via social media and on its website at [www.ddap.pa.gov](http://www.ddap.pa.gov).

Please write a narrative (500 words or less) that is suitable to be read by the public, including children.

Contact information is required only to assure that stories are legitimate, it will not be published.

You may be contacted by DDAP to ask if you'd like to share your story in person.



## ARCO Leadership Academy

Pennsylvania was well represented at the ARCO Leadership Academy in Washington D.C.

The Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance joined other recovery leaders from Pennsylvania and from around the nation at the Association of Recovery Community Organizations (ARCO) leadership academy in Washington DC. Recovery Community Organizations that participated in the academy included The Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance, Message Carriers of Pennsylvania, PRO-ACT, The RASE Project and Lost Dreams Awakening. Following the academy, ARCO members conducted Hill visits to educate legislators about recovery.

What is ARCO? ARCO at Faces & Voices of Recovery:

- Unites and supports the growing network of local, regional and statewide recovery community organizations (RCOs).
- Links RCO's and their leaders with local and national allies, and provides training and technical assistance to groups.
- Helps build the unified voice of the organized recovery community and fulfill their commitment to supporting the development of new groups and strengthening existing ones.

Currently, ARCO has over 100-member organizations. Interested in learning more? Learn more about ARCO here:  
<http://facesandvoicesofrecovery.org/arco/about-arco.html>

ANNOUNCING

# Recovery Works Summit 2017

Wednesday, September 13, 2017  
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.

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OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.RASEPROJECT.ORG](http://WWW.RASEPROJECT.ORG)



# PRO•A calendar

## 2017 REGIONAL STATEWIDE RECOVERY MONTH EVENTS

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL EVENTS, PLEASE CHECK OUR ON-LINE CALENDAR AT [HTTP://PRO-A.ORG/CALENDAR](http://PRO-A.ORG/CALENDAR)



### August Events

#### **AUGUST 31 | OVERDOSE AWARENESS EVENT | 5 – 7:30 PM**

LOCATION: St. Clair Park, Greensburg | CONTACT INFORMATION: [westmorelandadvocates@gmail.com](mailto:westmorelandadvocates@gmail.com)

DESCRIPTION: Join us for an evening of hope, remembrance, and action. Speakers | Live Entertainment | Resources Expo | In Their Shoes Project Display | 50/50 raffle | Gift Basket Raffle | Food and Beverages. 174 lives were lost to overdoses in Westmoreland County last year. In honor of these individuals, we are collecting 174 pairs of shoes to represent our loved ones as a display for International Overdose Awareness Day at our local event on Thursday August 31st. Contact Kendra DiLascio at (412) 760-0119 or Carmen Capozzi at (412) 817-7851. Shoe drop-off locations: Latrobe: SPHS 1100 Ligonier St. | Greensburg: SPHS 203 S. Maple Ave. | Irwin: Sage's Army Headquarters 216 Fourth St. | Mt. Pleasant: CSAY/WeDAC 1 Etzy Avenue New Kensington: SPHS 408 8th Ave.

#### **AUGUST 31 | 3RD ANNUAL INDIANA COUNTY OVERDOSE AWARENESS CANDLELIGHT VIGIL REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 6 PM, PROGRAM AND SPEAKERS BEGIN AT 7 PM**

LOCATION: Armagh Fire Dept. 12095 Rt. 56 Armagh, PA 15920 | CONTACT INFORMATION: Email Becky at [r.a.perky47@gmail.com](mailto:r.a.perky47@gmail.com),

Phone 724-549-2679 or email Karen at [bsgad2014@gmail.com](mailto:bsgad2014@gmail.com) | DESCRIPTION: This is a FREE recovery day event. Featuring worship music, speakers, a balloon release, informational booths, and light refreshments. If you have been trained to administer Narcan, bring your certificate to the AICDAC Booth to receive FREE Naloxone (Narcan). *You must have a valid up-to-date certificate to qualify.*

#### **AUGUST 31 | "BUILDING COMMUNITY, SHARING HOPE" | 5:30 – 8:30 PM**

LOCATION: Charles A. Melton Community Center, 501 E. Miner St., West Chester, PA | CONTACT INFORMATION: [proactchesco@gmail.com](mailto:proactchesco@gmail.com)

DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE to attend. Please join us for an evening of fellowship and hope, featuring food, overdose prevention and recovery resources, keynote speakers and a remembrance ceremony for those lost to addiction. We will conclude with a luminary ceremony where guests will be able to choose a luminary and place it outside, where all the lights will spell out the word "HOPE."

For more information, visit <http://conta.cc/2uzzqRF>

## National/Statewide Events

### SEPTEMBER 6 | PENNSYLVANIA KICK-OFF OF NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH | 10 AM – 12 PM

LOCATION: Main Rotunda, Capitol Building, Harrisburg

CONTACT INFORMATION: Email Carol Gifford at [cagifford@pa.gov](mailto:cagifford@pa.gov) or call 717.547.3314

DESCRIPTION: Please join Governor Tom Wolf, the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, advocates, and friends, to kick-off the month's activities to celebrate the number of individuals living in recovery and provide recovery supports to those working to living a life of recovery. Event highlights include: Ceremony with Governor Tom Wolf and others | Photo booths – add your pic to the "Faces of Recovery" purple ribbon Share your recovery stories (in advance, during, and after event on the DDAP website) | Vendor tables Help us recognize and celebrate with Pennsylvanians living in recovery from alcohol or substance use disorders addictions.  
*Prevention Works | Treatment is Effective | People Recover*

### SEPTEMBER 26 | RECOVERY ADVOCACY DAY | 10 AM – 3 PM

LOCATION: Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex, 501 North 3rd Street Harrisburg, PA 17120

CONTACT INFORMATION: [recoveryadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:recoveryadvocacy@gmail.com)

DESCRIPTION: This is a FREE event. You are invited to join Pennsylvania's recovering community for a day of advocacy in Harrisburg. Recovery Advocacy Day aims to raise awareness of substance use disorders, celebrates individuals in long term recovery, and acknowledges the work of prevention, treatment, and recovery support services. Participants are welcome to arrive any time after 10 am to meet with their elected officials where they can share their recovery experience and convey a message of hope. At 2 pm, participants are invited to attend a media event in the main rotunda which will consist of remarks from individuals in recovery and state officials. You can preregister for the event by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/recovery-advocacy-day-tickets-36064914129>

## NorthWest Events

### SEPTEMBER 1 | RECOVERY CELEBRATION | 11 AM – 3 PM

LOCATION: 903 Diamond Park, Meadville Pa 16335

CONTACT INFORMATION: Cheryl or Judith 814-724-4100

DESCRIPTION: We will have a wide variety of vendors setting up tables of information around Diamond Park. These vendors will provide information about all the supports available in our community to help those struggling with drugs, alcohol and mental health issues, and the families and friends who love them. In light of this year's National Recovery Theme, '*strengthen families and communities*' we will be having some different vendors at our event this year. The Going Places Project will be providing a 'play space'. The Going Places Project supports families and their children. We will also have a Sidewalk Sunday School (SSS) Truck from Living Waters Church who provides a variety of support to children and their families. SSS will be bringing some fun games to our event as well. At noon, we will have a ceremony with speakers at the Gazebo in the Diamond. Come join us for fun, food, fellowship and more, all for FREE.

### SEPTEMBER 10 | 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL LIGHTS OF HOPE | 6:30 – 8:30 PM

LOCATION: East Washington St. Riverwalk Park, New Castle, PA.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Dan Bailey 724-657-7466

DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE to attend. This year's theme is recovery resources and will feature individuals and representatives of agencies who offer resources for individuals in or seeking recovery and family members. This year's keynote speaker is Michael DeLeon from steered straight. Topics will include family services and warm hand-off. Speakers will be followed with a self-phone flashlight prayer vigil.

### SEPTEMBER 12 | PARENTS ACADEMY | 6:15 – 8:15 PM

LOCATION: Ben Franklin Auditorium, 816 Cunningham Ave., New Castle, PA.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Dan Bailey 724-657-7466

DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE to attend. Presented by Michael DeLeon of Steered Straight. This presentation is for parents, but all are welcome, and will provide updates on drug trends, and provide tools to start meaningful dialogue with their children. Parents are encouraged to bring their children, grade 7 through 12.

### SEPTEMBER 15 | VENANGO COUNTY ANNUAL RECOVERY CELEBRATION | 5 PM

LOCATION: Bandstand Park on Liberty Street in Franklin, PA.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Abby Rosen at (814)-676-9940, Ext. 47 or [arosen@fscas.org](mailto:arosen@fscas.org) or Susan Huffman at [shuffman@co.venango.pa.us](mailto:shuffman@co.venango.pa.us)

DESCRIPTION: Every September, the Substance Abuse, and Mental Health Services Administration, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, sponsors National Recovery Month to increase awareness of behavioral health conditions. This observance promotes the belief that behavioral health is essential to overall health, prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover from mental and substance use disorders. The 2017 theme for this year's recovery celebration is, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Strengthen Families and Communities." This event brings people together to share real-life experiences that demonstrate the power of recovery from mental and substance use disorders.

### SEPTEMBER 16 | KAUFFMAN'S KORNER ANNUAL RECOVERY PICNIC | 12 – 5 PM

LOCATION: Cascade Park New Castle PA. 16101

CONTACT INFORMATION: Sherry Lynch at (724)658-2471 or [slynch@lawsca.six.com](mailto:slynch@lawsca.six.com)

DESCRIPTION: Kauffman's Korner hosts The Recovery Picnic, where the members of our recovery community form all fellowships, and Kauffman's Korner join together as one to celebrate recovery.

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## **SEPTEMBER 19 | 14TH ANNUAL RECOVERY CELEBRATION HOSTED BY MARTIN LUTHER KING CENTER 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

LOCATION: Martin Luther King Center 312 Chestnut St., Erie, PA 16507

CONTACT INFORMATION: Rita Wheeler, Co-Chair (814) 452-4462 ext. 103 or [rwheeler@mhanp.org](mailto:rwheeler@mhanp.org)

DESCRIPTION: The Recovery Celebration 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 theme: "Join the Voices for Recovery: Strengthening Families and Communities. Participants are asked 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 20 | ANNUAL RECOVERY BREAKFAST | 7:30 AM**

LOCATION: Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Rebecca Abramson at [rabramson@lawsca.swsix.com](mailto:rabramson@lawsca.swsix.com)

DESCRIPTION: Annual recovery breakfast with speakers to celebrate recovery. Speakers generally are those in recovery as well as someone who directly works with individuals while they are achieving their recovery goals.

## **SEPTEMBER 22 | TITUSVILLE AREA RECOVERY MONTH CELEBRATION | 2 – 6 PM**

LOCATION: Sheide Park (Corner of Perry and Central) - Titusville, PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: Rick Orłowski at [rrolowski@fscas.org](mailto:rrolowski@fscas.org) / Trish Dilbone at [pdilbone@fscas.org](mailto:pdilbone@fscas.org)

DESCRIPTION: Free event, public awareness of recovery, recovery agencies, recovery speakers, and more.

## **SEPTEMBER 22 | SPEAKER/RECOVERY DANCE | 7 – 11 PM**

LOCATION: hosted by the Mental Health Association, 1101 Peach St., Erie, PA 16501

CONTACT INFORMATION: Rita Wheeler, Co-Chair (814) 452-4462 ext. 103 or [rwheeler@mhanp.org](mailto:rwheeler@mhanp.org)

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 recovery pledges, giveaways, music, refreshments, and fellowship. The dance is \$3.00.

## **SEPTEMBER 23 | GAUDENZIA ERIE, INC.'S 20TH ANNUAL RACE FOR RECOVERY | 9 AM**

LOCATION: Presque Isle State Park, Erie PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: Jason Kisielewski, Community Affairs Manager, (814) 746-4184, [JasonK@gaudenziaerie.org](mailto:JasonK@gaudenziaerie.org)

DESCRIPTION: The annual Race for Recovery is our only fundraising event and helps us continue our mission of treating men and women at any level of care, regardless of their ability to pay. The proceeds go to the Patient Fund and are used for clothing, bus fare for job searches and school, recovery books and literature, and any other needs a client may have. Gaudenzia Erie, Inc. is committed to providing our clients with the tools that allow them a promising future and the ability to become productive members of their community, and also mentors to other people with the same needs. This event consists of a 1K fun run/walk, 5K run/walk, and 10K run. Please help us "E-Race" the Stigma of Addiction!

For more information, visit <http://www.eriepaceforrecovery.com/>.

## North Central Events

### **SEPTEMBER 9 | WALK FOR RECOVERY | 9 AM**

LOCATION: Bloomsburg Town Park at Market St, Bloomsburg, PA 17815 (corner of Ft McClure and Market St)

CONTACT INFORMATION: Jen Andress at or [jandress@theadvocacyalliance.org](mailto:jandress@theadvocacyalliance.org)

DESCRIPTION: Please join us for this free event in our community sponsored by CMSU's community support program. All are welcome!

The purpose of this event is to support people in our community who have been affected by addiction and to support those who are living in recovery today. There will be free information available from local D&A providers, light refreshments, entertainment, and t-shirts for sale.

*\*All monies raised will be donated back into community resources.*

### **SEPTEMBER 15 | NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY RECOVERY FEST | 12 – 3 PM**

LOCATION: 217 N. Center St. Sunbury, PA 17801 | CONTACT INFORMATION: Glenda Bonetti, 570-495-2161

DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE to attend. There will be vendors and entertainment.

### **SEPTEMBER 17 | RECOVERY MONTH AT BILGER ROCKS | 1 – 8 PM**

LOCATION: 1921 Bilgers Rocks Rd, Grampian, PA 16838 | CONTACT INFORMATION: Glenda Bonetti, 570-495-2161

DESCRIPTION: Bring your family and enjoy a day of FREE outdoor activities including a tour of the rocks from 1 PM to 3 PM. Activities include: Medi-Cupping | Mushroom walk | 12-step meetings | fire truck rides | scavenger hunts | marshmallow roast | hay rides | youth games | resource tables and food Visit <http://www.curwensville.com/community-events/recovery-month-at-bilger-rocks/> for more information.

### **SEPTEMBER 30 | RECOVERY COMMUNITY CONNECTION RECOVERY RALLY AND ROAST | 4 – 9 PM**

LOCATION: 1400 Market Street Williamsport PA 17701

CONTACT INFORMATION: Jenny at [jennifer@recoverycommunityconnection.org](mailto:jennifer@recoverycommunityconnection.org) or (272)202-0867

DESCRIPTION: JOIN OUR JOURNEY! In honor of National Recovery Month R.C.C. will be holding its First Annual Recovery Roast and Rally!

Enter your signature roast of meat, vegetable, or other to compete for a chance to win three top prizes 1st \$100 gift card | 2nd \$50 gift card 3rd mystery pick Live music, food, recovery speakers, advocacy info, and prizes! Dinner Tickets \$5 per person. There will be a candle light vigil to remember those we have lost to addiction this year at dark. Roast entries \$10, contact Jenny for submissions [jennifer@recoverycommunityconnection.org](mailto:jennifer@recoverycommunityconnection.org).

# North East Events

## SEPTEMBER 8 | MONROE COUNTY RECOVERY WALK | 10 AM

LOCATION: Dansbury Park, East Stroudsburg

DESCRIPTION: All walks will have speakers, vendors, and awareness walk

## SEPTEMBER 9 | ROCKERS IN RECOVERY | 12 – 5 PM

LOCATION: Kirby Park @ 160 Market St, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18704

CONTACT INFORMATION: 954-826-5968

DESCRIPTION: "TIME TO ROCK-N-ROLL CLEAN & SOBER STYLE" - The Love of Recovery - FREE Music Festival - Enjoy music, recovery speakers, arts and craft exhibitors, food vendors, recovery merchandise, addiction education, evidence-based treatment options and veteran information. If you can't make the event, it will be streaming on Facebook Live Rockers in Recovery.

## SEPTEMBER 9 | 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL NOT ONE MORE - WYOMING COUNTY ADDICTION AND OVERDOSE AWARENESS RALLY | 1 – 8 PM LIGHTS OF HOPE CEREMONY AT 8 PM

LOCATION: Lazybrook Park, Tunkhannock

CONTACT INFORMATION: Lizz DeWolf at 570-833-4330 or 570-750-1203

DESCRIPTION: A day of sharing, caring and truth about addiction and recovery resources. Information booths, food games for the kids, bouncy house, and self-defense demonstrations. Live music by: Hell Yo, Teelow, and Shelly's Underground. There will be a Lights of Hope ceremony in memory of those we have lost and in honor of those seeking help and those in recovery. The ceremony begins at 8 PM.

## SEPTEMBER 9 | LIGHTS OF HOPE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EVENT – PORTLAND PA | 5 – 8 PM

LOCATION: Wm. Pensyl Social Hall at 111 State St. Portland, PA 18351

CONTACT INFORMATION: Penny Conway 601-905-9821

DESCRIPTION: Lights of Hope ceremony, followed by a candlelight vigil, song, and prayer. The Addict's Mom 5th Annual Nationwide Event Joining communities to raise awareness and stop the stigma, silence, and shame of addiction. Drug Court, Angel Program, Workplace Education, and Jail Programs, are happening in your community.

## SEPTEMBER 10 | RIDE FOR RECOVERY | 12 – 3 PM

LOCATION: 117 N 3rd Street Easton, PA 18042

CONTACT INFORMATION: Phillip Chaney from "Change On 3rd Street" at (610) 829-2770 or pkchaney213@hotmail.com

DESCRIPTION: "Ride for Recovery" is an event to raise awareness about recovery in our communities & support Recovery Month across our nation. We start the Bicycle ride at noon on a charted course, that is just above beginner's level so that all can participate. At the halfway point Ice cream will be purchased for the riders by "Change On 3rd Street". We will complete the course that will end back at "Change On 3rd Street".

## SEPTEMBER 12, 19, 26 | 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LUNCH AND LEARN FORUMS | 12 – 1 PM

LOCATION: A Clean Slate 100 S. 1st Street Bangor, PA 18013

CONTACT INFORMATION: Recovery Revolution at 610-599-7700 or info@recoveryrevolution.org

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 10th 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.

September 12, 2017 "Family Issues of Addiction" Carol Geedman, BA, CADC, CCS- Family Counselor at RR

September 19, 2017 "Addiction and Recovery" Cortney Lambert, MA, CAADC

September 26, 2017 "BPAIR: Bangor Police Assisting in Recovery" Scott Felchock, Chief of Police, Bangor Borough

## SEPTEMBER 13 | CARBON COUNTY RECOVERY WALK | 4 PM

LOCATION: 7th and Iron Streets, Grove Park, Lehighton

DESCRIPTION: An awareness walk with speakers and vendors.

## SEPTEMBER 16 | PIKE COUNTY RECOVERY WALK | 10 AM

LOCATION: Memorial Park in Milford

DESCRIPTION: An awareness walk with speakers and vendors.

## SEPTEMBER 24 | CHRISTOPHER P. LEWIS MEMORIAL DRUG & ALCOHOL SYMPOSIUM | 12 – 4 PM

LOCATION: Olyphant Ambulance and Rescue 530 Park St. Olyphant, PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: Laura Tomassoni Lewis at LAL051256@aol.com or 570-876-4595

DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE to attend. This is an educational symposium. Discussion topics will include school prevention, as well as substance and alcohol use in the veteran and aging populations. There will be local leaders, family support groups, treatment agencies and will feature a panel discussion. There will be a basket raffle; all proceeds will go to drug and alcohol services in our area. The Our Lives Matter Memorial Quilt will be available for attendees to view. For questions regarding the quilt, please contact Stephanie Hastings at 717-545-8929 ext. 3 or s.hastings@pro-a.org.

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## SEPTEMBER 24 | AARMED 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL WALK FOR RECOVERY | 12 – 5 PM

LOCATION: Kirby Park, Wyoming Avenue, Wilkes Barre, PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: Evette Wermuth at 570-817-1410 or cupcakegrammie1@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: The AARMED organization of Luzerne County, PA is now organizing our 2nd annual Walk for Recovery. This year we will continue to focus on raising awareness and ending the stigma of addiction. Entertainment will be provided by DJ Baghdaddy, Jubilee Balloons, numerous recovery centers, vendors, and resources available as well. Several speakers will be sharing their own stories of addiction and recovery, along with addiction and recovery specialists speaking out on this epidemic we are losing our community to. Let's come together as a community, educate the public, and SAVE LIVES. AARMED Organization of Luzerne County is a non-profit agency who collects donations and sponsorships to give back to the community and donate the proceeds to non-profit agencies that provide the necessary resources for our community. This year we will be donating the proceeds to Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug services and "VETERANS PROMISE" who is a group that provides resources, educates, and advocates for Veterans in need of drug and alcohol services, suicide, and mental health needs. We look forward to raising awareness and ending the stigma again this year!

## SEPTEMBER 30 | 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL ROCKSOBERFEST II: CELEBRATING THE GIFTS OF A SOBER LIFE 11 AM – 7:30 PM

LOCATION: Macungie Memorial Park at 50 N. Poplar St., Macungie, PA 18062

CONTACT INFORMATION: sbarr@livengrin.org

DESCRIPTION: After an amazing first year in 2016 RockSoberFest is back! The second annual RockSoberFest will be a day celebrating the gifts of sobriety. Join us for music, artists, and comedy from creative professionals who have journeyed through their addictions to find their creative gifts. Our community was gripped by fear and helplessness when the opioid epidemic exploded into public awareness. With awareness, stigma, and lack of knowledge about addiction came sharply into focus. Our artists and performers show us grace in the face of a growing epidemic and inspire those still deep in their illness. There is profound hope for our brothers, sisters, and communities struggling with addiction. By joining us at RockSoberFest you can inspire hope, bring understanding, celebrate this joyous sober life, and end the stigma associated with addictions. This is a rain or shine event.

## South West Events

### SEPTEMBER 9 | RECOVERY LIGHTS UP THE LIGHTS | 6:30 – 8:30 PM

LOCATION: Begins at 5907 Penn Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15206

CONTACT INFORMATION: Robin Horston Spencer, <http://messagecarriersofpennsylvania.org/contact-us/>.

DESCRIPTION: This is a night bicycle ride through several communities surrounding the E. Liberty section of Pittsburgh, PA. We ask you to come with your bike lit up to be seen for night riding. For more information visit [www.mcolpa.org](http://www.mcolpa.org).

### SEPTEMBER 13 | ART FOR RECOVERY AND TRANSFORMATION | 6 – 8 PM

LOCATION: 2 N Main St, Greensburg, PA 15601

CONTACT INFORMATION: demetrejosebeck@gmail.com (Demetre Josebeck), [tphillips@westmorelandca.org](mailto:tphillips@westmorelandca.org) (Tim Phillips)

DESCRIPTION: An art show displaying the emotions of addiction through media of all types. Addiction doesn't discriminate and neither does recovery; we can recover!

### SEPTEMBER 16 | PITTSBURGH RECOVERY WALK | 9 AM

LOCATION: Downtown Pittsburgh (Penn Avenue walk to Market Square)

CONTACT INFORMATION: [info@pghrecoverywalk.org](mailto:info@pghrecoverywalk.org)

DESCRIPTION: The Pittsburgh Recovery Walk is an event that aims to dispel the negative stigma associated with recovery from addiction, and instead celebrate the many roads to recovery and all those who have traveled them. The 2017 Recovery Walk takes place in September as part of National Recovery Month. The Pittsburgh Recovery Walk begins at 10th and Penn and proceeds to Market Square, where there will be a Recovery Expo with speakers, entertainment, and activities. This event is completely free! Advance registration for our September 16, 2017 Recovery Walk is not required, but it is encouraged. Visit [www.pghrecoverywalk.org](http://www.pghrecoverywalk.org) to learn more and to sign up!

### SEPTEMBER 16 | THE ADVOCACY GROUP FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY (TAG) ANNUAL RECOVERY WALK | 12 – 4 PM

LOCATION: Riverfront Park Kittanning, PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: 724-762-6507

DESCRIPTION: The Advocacy Group for Addiction Recovery (TAG) is hosting their annual Recovery Walk. Come show your support for recovery and show the community that **We Do Recover!**

### SEPTEMBER 27 | OPIOID CONFERENCE | 8 AM – 4 PM

LOCATION: Doubletree Monroeville 101 Mall Blvd, Monroeville, PA 15146

CONTACT INFORMATION: Suzanna Masartis at 412-400-9343 or [suzanna@communityliveralliance.org](mailto:suzanna@communityliveralliance.org)

DESCRIPTION: Opioid Conference to discuss the intersection of opiate use disorder, overdose, and infectious disease epidemics in young adults. Register at [www.CommunityLiverAlliance.org](http://www.CommunityLiverAlliance.org). Registration is \$25 and includes: CME contact hours and Breakfast and Lunch. Topics to Include: State of HCV in Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, and Surrounding Counties | Linkage to Care | Patient Counseling | HCV Drug Therapy Overview | HCV/ HIV Co-Infection | Emerging Role of Primary Care in HCV Treatment | Addressing HCV Disparities, Stigma, and Harm Reduction | Effective Public Health Program Strategies | HCV Screening | Nursing Role in counseling those with HCV and Accessing Treatment | Harm Reduction Strategies | HIV/HCV Antibody Testing Certification

## **SEPTEMBER 30 | LDA 2017 RECOVERY SUPPORT SYMPOSIUM | 9 AM – 4 PM**

LOCATION: Penn State, New Kensington - 3550 7th Street, New Kensington, PA 15068

CONTACT INFORMATION: Laurie Johnson-Wade at 724-212-7899 or [awakeninglostdreams@yahoo.com](mailto:awakeninglostdreams@yahoo.com)

DESCRIPTION: The Lost Dreams Awakening (LDA) Recovery Support Symposium will feature eclectic, dynamic guides to enlighten our recovery community, family, friends, and allies as we discover the true essence and practical application embodied in the principles of RECOVERY.

Additionally, the Symposium features the Consumer Health Coalition's Human Library Project - The Human Library is an initiative for social change based on the power of a person's story. It is designed to build a positive framework for conversations that can challenge stereotypes and reduce stigma through dialogue. A Saltworks Stage Production created for the LDA Recovery Community Center "Hope Squad" will be featured as well.

Registration: \$25 includes Breakfast, Lunch & Symposium. Register at <http://www.recoverysupportservices.net/>.

## **SEPTEMBER 30 | PROJECT STAND | 11 AM – 5 PM**

LOCATION: St. Clair Park, Greensburg PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: More Information call 724-539-7900 or [faithforwardpa@gmail.com](mailto:faithforwardpa@gmail.com)

DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE to attend. Interested vendors, please call 724-539-7900. Please join us as we STAND up against addiction this is HOW you can be a part of the solution! "Community standing together Against Addiction and Standing together in Hope." Faith Forward wants to bring people together to STAND against ADDICTION in our community and to share the message of HOPE. How? Unity in Prayer, Partnering together with churches, organizations, individuals, and businesses, Creating awareness and Hope! We will come together to celebrate those who have overcome addiction and those who want to continue the fight, with a CELEBRATION STAND picnic together at St. Clair Park, Greensburg. We plan to come together in a prayer circle, as we stand together in unity, against addiction. Activities include: Bands, Speakers, Organizations, Churches, Vendors Family Friendly Fun, Dove Balloon release, Bounce House, Petting Zoo, and much more!

## **South Central Events**

### **SEPTEMBER 1 | 2017 PROCLAMATION SPONSORED BY: THE YORK RECOVERY COMMITTEE. 5:30 – 7:30 PM**

LOCATION: Cherry Lane, Downtown York

CONTACT INFORMATION: Brittany Shutz at [BAShutz@yorkcountypa.gov](mailto:BAShutz@yorkcountypa.gov)

DESCRIPTION: Vendors include- Treatment providers, Recovery Houses, and County Support Agencies, who will provide information and hand-outs for the public. Ceremony includes 'circle conversation' from family members, individuals in recovery and community members. There will be a proclamation reading and kick-off with music and other activities. Bio-degradable balloon release to close sponsored by Rehab After Work. All donations support Not One More York Chapter. Vendor Fee: \$50.00 waived for County Agencies and Support Groups.

### **SEPTEMBER 1 | HEALING WITH HOPE | 5:30 PM**

LOCATION: Best Western Premier 800 East Park Drive Harrisburg, PA 17109

CONTACT INFORMATION: Allison Schlegel, 610-644-6464 x 1395

DESCRIPTION: Join us at the proclamation ceremony held by the York Recovery Committee to kick off Recovery Month. Balloons will be available at the Rehab After Work stand. Write messages to those we have lost to addiction and those we are still fighting for, or share uplifting words for our recovery community. These messages will be placed in biodegradable balloons that will be released at the closing of the proclamation by family, friends, and community members. In support of our recovery community, Rehab After Work will have an optional donation fund with ALL proceeds being gifted to Not One More.

### **SEPTEMBER 9 | RASE PROJECT 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DINNER AND COMEDY SHOW | 5 PM**

LOCATION: Cherry Lane, Downtown York

CONTACT INFORMATION: Brittany Webster 717-418-1610 [brittneyw@raseproject.org](mailto:brittneyw@raseproject.org)

DESCRIPTION: Dinner, Comedy Show, and Dance in observance of National Recovery Month. Doors open at 5 pm.

### **SEPTEMBER 13 | 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL RECOVERY WORKS SUMMIT 2017 | 7 AM – 5 PM**

LOCATION: Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel 4650 Lindle Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17111

CONTACT INFORMATION: Patricia Baranowski by phone at 484-274-0184 or email at [patti.b@pro-a.org](mailto:patti.b@pro-a.org)

DESCRIPTION: The Second Annual Recovery Works Summit is an exciting and historic opportunity to once again bring together the mental health and drug and alcohol recovery communities. People in recovery, providers of behavioral health services and policy makers will join in collaborative efforts to strengthen our 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 topics designed to strengthen our collective voices and expand recovery. Exploration of opportunities and challenges for recovery workforce development and retention | Advocacy within and between the recovery movements | Working together to impact public policy that improves peer based recovery support services and our recovery systems. 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 in our Pennsylvania communities. Presentations include: How did we get here and where are we going? | Advocacy of Communities of Consequence | Outcomes and Analysis of Town Hall Meetings From Handcuffs to Paychecks: Getting our Lives Back. Visit <http://www.recoveryworkssummit.com/index.html> for more information. For registration, go to <https://recoveryworkssummit2016.ticketleap.com/rws/>.

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**SEPTEMBER 22 | GOLF FOR A CAUSE  
PENNSYLVANIA ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT  
TWO TEE TIMES | 7 AM AND 1 PM**

LOCATION: 1240 Golf Course Road, Myerstown, PA 17067 – Lebanon County

CONTACT INFORMATION: Jennifer Joiner – 717.933.2844 – [jjoiner@paatc.org](mailto:jjoiner@paatc.org)

DESCRIPTION: In support of national recovery month, Pennsylvania Adult & Teen Challenge is hosting their 28th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Proceeds go to support individuals in Medical Detox, Short-Term State-Licensed programming, and Long-Term Faith-Based programming, as well as education for the families of those in treatment. Register at [www.paatc.org](http://www.paatc.org) or by calling 717.933.2844.ed

**SEPTEMBER 23 | DAUPHIN COUNTY'S 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL RECOVERY DAY EVENT | 9 AM – 3 PM**

LOCATION: Harrisburg Mall Front Entrance Paxton Street side, 3501 Paxton Street, Harrisburg PA, 17111

CONTACT INFORMATION: Helen Spence at 717-574-8810 or [hspence@dauphinc.org](mailto:hspence@dauphinc.org)

DESCRIPTION: This event is FREE to attend. The 3rd Annual Recovery Day will kick off at, 9 AM with a one Mile Walk for Recovery around the Mall. At 10 AM, activities will move inside for a one-stop-shop of over 100 resource vendors. This family friendly event is for all ages, young and old, to aide in recovery from any of life's challenges. In addition to the variety of vendor resources, there will be FREE prizes and snacks, activities for the kids, live entertainment and guest speakers sharing their life's challenges. "Join the Voices for Recovery; Strengthen Families and Communities"!!!

**SEPTEMBER 24 | CANDLELIGHT VIGIL | 7 PM**

LOCATION: 2nd Avenue United Methodist Church, 130 2nd Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16601

CONTACT INFORMATION: Sarah Neely, [sneely@blairdap.org](mailto:sneely@blairdap.org) or 814-381-0921

DESCRIPTION: The event is free of charge. The event is open to the public, and especially persons in recovery, as well as friends and families who have lost someone in addiction. There will be a candle lighting ceremony along with fellowship.

## South East Events

**SEPTEMBER 7 | MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF DRUG & ALCOHOL  
1ST ANNUAL LIGHTS OF HOPE EVENT | 6 PM**

LOCATION: Montgomery County Courthouse

CONTACT INFORMATION: Katie Kucz at [kkucz@montcopa.org](mailto:kkucz@montcopa.org)

DESCRIPTION: The Montgomery County Office of Drug & Alcohol along with its community partners is hosting the first annual Lights of Hope event. This event is free, open to the public and will include music, food and luminary bag decoration and display. Registration is required by visiting: [www.montcopa.org/lightsofhope](http://www.montcopa.org/lightsofhope).

**SEPTEMBER 14 | GENERATION FOUND SCREENING | 7 PM**

LOCATION: East Goshen Township Building, 1580 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380

CONTACT INFORMATION: Kate Genthert, [kgenthert@chesco.org](mailto:kgenthert@chesco.org)

DESCRIPTION: Free Screening of the documentary Generation Found followed by a panel discussion.

**SEPTEMBER 16 | 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL RECOVERY NIGHT AT THE BASEBALL GAME! | 7:05 PM**

LOCATION: Phillies Baseball Stadium at 1 Citizens Bank Way Philadelphia, PA 19148

CONTACT INFORMATION: Fred Martin at [fmartin@councilsepa.org](mailto:fmartin@councilsepa.org) or 215-923-1661

DESCRIPTION: Enjoy a fun filled night of Phillies baseball. Come see the Phillies take on Oakland Athletics at home during recovery night at the baseball game! Tickets are \$20 each and the fee includes a donation towards recovery support services.

Tickets are available at <http://www.councilsepa.org/events/Baseball/>

**SEPTEMBER 18 | ON COURSE FOR RECOVERY 2017 GOLF EVENT AND DINNER | 1 PM**

LOCATION: Brookside Country Club at 850 N Adams St, Pottstown, PA 19464

CONTACT INFORMATION: Gail Osborne 610-312-3669

DESCRIPTION: Golf Scramble Tournament and Community Awards Dinner to Raise Awareness for Youth and Young Adult Recovery.

For more information or to access our flyer visit <https://www.facebook.com/OnCourseforRecoveryandTysonsFund>

**SEPTEMBER 19 | NARCAN DISTRIBUTION EVENT | 6:30 PM**

LOCATION: New Life Church, 467 N. Easton Road, Glenside

DESCRIPTION: The Montgomery County Offices of Drug & Alcohol and Health are sponsoring free quarterly Naloxone distribution events.

Preregister at <http://www.montcopa.org/FormCenter/Health-Department-27/Montgomery-County-Naloxone-Education-and-206>

**SEPTEMBER 23 | PRO-ACT RECOVERY WALKS! 2017 | 7 AM – 9 AM WALK BEGINS**

LOCATION: Great Plaza at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia, PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: Nancy Adam at 215-345-6644 or [nadam@councilsepa.org](mailto:nadam@councilsepa.org)

DESCRIPTION: The largest recovery walk in the country. We had over 26,000 people walk last year and expect 30,000 this year.

This is a free event. If you wish to donate or register to walk please go to our web site at: [www.recoverywalks.org](http://www.recoverywalks.org)

*Continued on next page*

## SEPTEMBER 23 | BERKS COUNTY 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RECOVERY WALK AND SOBERSTOCK 11 AM WALK BEGINS – SOBERSTOCK 12 PM – 4 PM

LOCATION: The recovery walk will begin at Reading City Park and Soberstock will be held at Reading City Park:

1044 Washington St., Reading, PA 19604

CONTACT INFORMATION: Easy Does It Inc. at (610) 373-2463

DESCRIPTION: Recovery is a Family Journey, this a family friendly event, free to attend - with live music, fun activities for the whole family, food, and craft vendors. 11 AM Recovery Walk | New This Year - Recovery Walk will begin at Reading City Park | Soberstock Music Festival Soberstock will be held from NOON - 4 PM at Reading City Park: 1044 Washington St., Reading, PA 19604

## SEPTEMBER 23 | 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MY FEST PENNSYLVANIA | 12 PM – 4 PM

LOCATION: Rose Tree Park 1671 N Providence Rd, Media, PA 19063

CONTACT INFORMATION: Tara Karbiner at TAKarbinger@MagellanHealth.com or Greg Dicharry at GDDicharry@MagellanHealth.com

DESCRIPTION: This 7th annual MY Fest Pennsylvania is a FREE community event hosted by MY LIFE Pennsylvania youth groups to raise awareness about issues affecting youth. MY LIFE is a FREE empowering group for youth ages 13 to 23 who have experience with mental health, substance abuse, foster care, and other challenges, who use their experience to help others and improve the systems that serve youth. MY LIFE and MY Fest is supported by Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania, Bucks County Behavioral Health System, Delaware County Office of Behavioral Health, Lehigh County HealthChoices, Montgomery County Department of Behavioral Health and developmental Disabilities, Northampton County HealthChoices and a variety of youth serving organizations. Visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MYLIFEyouth>. Music, art, entertainment and youth empowerment: Incredible Bands, Hip Hop Artists, and Performers | Games, Face Painting, and Crafts  
Hundreds of Resources for Youth & Families | Free Food | And Much More

## SEPTEMBER 28 | PATHWAYS TO PARDONS SEMINAR | 5 – 8 PM

LOCATION: Philadelphia (TBD please check the PRO•A calendar at <http://pro-a.org/calendar/>)

CONTACT INFORMATION: (TBD – please check the PRO•A calendar at <http://pro-a.org/calendar/>)

DESCRIPTION: This program is free and open to the public. Guest speakers may include local and state representatives, and staff from the Board of Pardons and Department of Corrections. A public Q&A session will follow the speakers' presentations and that will be followed by an opportunity for attendees to have one on one Q&A with the presenters. The seminar is designed to: provide an overview of the Pathway to Pardons initiative, help residents better understand the process of applying for a pardon, discuss the requirements that must be met for an application to be considered. There will be ongoing workshops and town hall meetings, hosted throughout the state. These workshops will include information on pardons, commutations, expungements, and how the characteristics of sustained recovery align with the elements of a pardon investigation. Please visit the following links for more information: <http://www.bop.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx> | <http://pro-a.org/pennsylvania-pathways-to-pardons-process/>

## SEPTEMBER 30 | LANCASTER COUNTY – RECOVERY DAY | 10 AM – 3 PM

LOCATION: Buchanan Park Lancaster PA

CONTACT INFORMATION: For more information, contact Compass Mark at 717-299-2831

DESCRIPTION: Come celebrate recovery with the whole family! There will be a recovery walk, live music, Hess's BBQ lunch, activities for adults and children. Lawn chairs optional, rain or shine event. The walk begins at 11 AM and the BBQ is from 11:45 am to 1:45 pm. The walk is free and the BBQ is \$5. Register and pre-pay for the BBQ at <http://recoveryday.brownpapertickets.com/>

## SEPTEMBER 30 | RECOVERY IN THE COUNTRY | 5 PM

LOCATION: 1166 Elephant Road, Perkasie, PA 18944

CONTACT INFORMATION: Nancy Adam at [nadam@councilsepa.org](mailto:nadam@councilsepa.org) or 215-345-6644

DESCRIPTION: Fundraising dinner for prevention and recovery support programs

## Extended Events

### SEPTEMBER 25 – OCTOBER 9 | RECOVERY DISPLAY IN SENATOR ANDY DINNIMAN'S OFFICE

LOCATION: 1 N Church St, West Chester, PA 19380 | CONTACT INFORMATION: Kate Genthert, [Kgenthert@chesco.org](mailto:Kgenthert@chesco.org)

DESCRIPTION: Recovery Display in PA State Senators Office window

### SEPTEMBER 1 – 30 | RECOVERY DISPLAY IN GOVERNMENT SERVICES CENTER BUILDING

LOCATION: 601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19380 | CONTACT INFORMATION: Kate Genthert, [Kgenthert@chesco.org](mailto:Kgenthert@chesco.org)

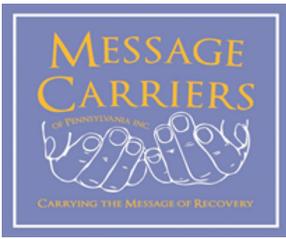
DESCRIPTION: Recovery Display Government Services Center

# DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM?

1-800-662-HELP

GET  
HELP

[www.pa.gov/opioids](http://www.pa.gov/opioids)



# Message Carriers of Pennsylvania

Message Carriers of Pennsylvania is currently going through a transition period; we are updating our office space and equipment to provide additional services.

We hope to complete the office and equipment process by September to be in line with our Recovery Month activity. Also, on September 9<sup>th</sup>, during National Recovery Month, we will host our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Recovery Lights. As in the past, we will start around 6 pm outside of our office at 5907 Penn Ave. We will have speakers, music and checking of your bikes for a safe and fun night ride! So, come with your bike lit up as we ride through surrounding communities of the E. Liberty section of Pittsburgh in unity of Recovery!

Let's not forget to contact our legislators and thank them for not repealing, nor replacing, the Affordable Care Act. This was a huge victory for those we serve. Being mindful we already lost thousands of lives from the Opioid Epidemic. Therefore, we need to always vote, and learn about their views on addiction and recovery before electing them into office because their votes impact persons suffering from this chronic illness of substance use disorders. Remember, many people still misunderstand substance use disorders. Be prepared to educate your legislator to ensure they can make conscience decisions on how to help persons seeking sustainable recovery and the benefits it brings to our communities!

*Robin Horston Spencer, MHS, MS, MBA, OWDS, RCA  
Executive Director, Message Carriers of Pennsylvania*



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Call 717.393.3215 or visit [www.gatehouse.org](http://www.gatehouse.org) for more information.

### CONTACT OUR 24-HOUR CALL CENTER

# 1-844-209-6944

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# Begin Your Recovery Now.

At Treatment Trends we work with you to get you on the road to recovery. We provide caring services that extend beyond just traditional models of recovery. We provide rehabilitation and a continuum of care for people struggling with the disease of addiction. For men and women in the criminal justice system, veterans, victim survivors, and those who have suffered because of sexual abuse or domestic violence, we are able to help.



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  - Confront
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National Recovery Month  
Prevention Works. Treatment is Effective. People Recover.  
SEPTEMBER 2017

## PLEASE JOIN US!

### Pennsylvania Kick-Off of National Recovery Month

10 AM, Wednesday, September 6, Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg

@PaRecovers #PaRecovers

- Ceremony with Governor Tom Wolf and others
- Photo booths – add your picture to the “Faces of Recovery” purple ribbon
- Share your recovery stories in advance, during, and after event at:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PArecovers>
- Vendor tables

Help us recognize and celebrate with Pennsylvanians living in recovery from alcohol or substance use disorders addictions.

**Prevention Works.  
Treatment is Effective.  
People Recover.**



# TOGETHER

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# PRO•A

Working Together...

to make  
"Recovery Voices Count"  
in Pennsylvania!

## Recovery Works | **Summit 2017**

September 13

<http://www.recoveryworkssummit.com/>

SAVE THE DATE!

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1-866-773-7917

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