



Academy of Peer Services

Virtual Community News Digest

May 23, 2017

A news digest of the Academy of Peer Services Virtual Community.

<https://virtualcommunityblog.wordpress.com/>

Welcome to the Virtual Community News Digest, a weekly summary of events, research opportunities, jobs, and other announcements for the peer workforce in New York State.

For more information about the Academy of Peer Services or view the full **Course Catalog** visit:

www.academyofpeerservices.org



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Deadlines

(Don't Miss Out!)

May 29 – Scholarship Application (Deadline)

Mental Health America 2017 Annual Conference
Washington, DC
(June 14-16, 2017)

[Scholarship Application](#) (deadline: May 29)

May 31 – Early Bird Registration (Deadline)

NAMI Annual Convention
Washington, DC
(June 28-July 1, 2017)

[Learn More](#)

June 16 – Deadline to Apply

15 Peer Speakers for Paid Speaker's Bureau
CUCS [Academy for Justice-Informed Practice](#)

[Learn More](#)

June 16 – Call for Proposals (Deadline)

NYAPRS 35th Annual Conference
(Sept. 13-15, 2017)
Hudson Valley Resort & Spa | Kerhonkson, NY

- [Call for Presentations](#) (deadline: June 16)

- [Scholarship Application](#) (deadline: July 31)

June 16 – Call for Proposals (Deadline Extended)

International Association of Peer Supporters (iNAPS) | 11th Annual Peer Support Conference
(October 16-18, 2017)
Sheraton Crescent Hotel, 2620 West Dunlap Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021

[Call for Proposals \(deadline: June 16\)](#)

[Early Bird Registration \(deadline: June 30\)](#)

[Conference Page](#)

Upcoming Events

(listed chronologically)

----- National Webinar -----

May 18, 2017

1:00 - 2:30 pm ET

Evidence-based Practices in Recovery and Wellness

This is your opportunity to gain more information about three evidence-based practices in recovery and wellness:

- Whole Health Action Management (WHAM)
- Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP)
- Chronic Disease Self-Management (CDSM)

Learn more and register here: [*Evidence-based Practices in Recovery and Wellness*](#).

REGISTER

----- National Webinar -----

May 26, 2017

2:00 - 3:00 pm ET

SAMHSA BRSS TACS Recovery LIVE! - Be a Part of the Conversation!

Recovery Housing 101

Recovery LIVE! participants engage directly with presenters and each other through live chatting, polls, and other interactive features.

Be part of the conversation—register today!

REGISTER

----- New York City -----

May 26, 2017

9:00am - 4:00pm | Doors open at 8:30am

**Boundary Issues in Peer Counseling
in the Juvenile Justice System**

Where: [123 William Street, 19th Floor, New York, NY 10038](#)

Cost: *Free*

[REGISTER](#)

(to reserve your seat)

----- New York City -----

May 28, 2017

ThriveAtWork | Next Class Starts

Join a three-week training in May or June, 2017, to help you jump-start or complete the Academy of Peer Services Certification. Courses cover all relevant materials and offer a supportive, interactive classroom environment to facilitate your certification process!



Join a three-week training in May or June, 2017, to help you jump-start or complete the Academy of Peer Services Certification. Courses cover all relevant materials and offer a supportive, interactive classroom environment to facilitate your certification process!

Free Peer Specialist Training

Prepare for State Certification

[Click here for more information](#)

---- National Webinar ----

May 30, 2017

2 p.m. ET / 1 p.m. CT / 12 p.m. MT / 11 a.m. PT

[DBSA* Peer Leadership Center:](#)

Online Resource for Peer Workforce & Organizations

*Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance

This webinar is to introduce you to [DBSA Peer Leadership Center](#). This center is an easily accessible, impartial, and central location where peer specialists and peer supporters can find the information and training they want, connect with others working in the field, learn about employment opportunities and organizations that champion peer support services, and engage in dialogue to strengthen the peer workforce.

[Click Here to Register!](#)

---- National Networking Call ----

May 31, 2017



TOPIC: [How Do You Deal with Social Exclusion in Mental Health and the Behavioral Health Workplace?](#)

[\(REGISTER\)](#)

---- National Conference ----

June 5-7, 2017

WRAP AROUND THE WORLD

Sacramento, CA



[\(Click here for details\)](#)

---- National Conference ----

June 14-16, 2017



MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA
2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SEX, DRUGS, AND ROCK & ROLL

WASHINGTON, DC · JUNE 14-16, 2017

Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

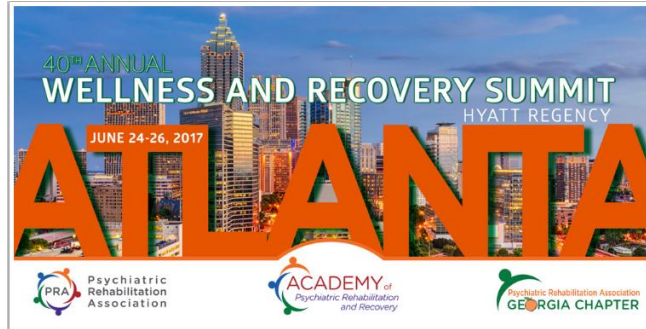
[Consumer Scholarships](#) (deadline, May 29th)

[\(Click here for details\)](#)

---- National Conference ----

June 24-26, 2017

40th Annual Wellness and Recovery Summit
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association | Atlanta, GA



[\(Click here for details\)](#)

----- National Conference -----

June 28-July 1, 2017



Washington Hilton Hotel, 1919 Connecticut Ave. NW

[\(Click here for details\)](#)

----- Statewide Webinar -----

June 30, 2017

10:30–12:00 p.m. EDT



New York Peer Specialist Certification Board

Updates on the Peer Specialist Certification in New York State

Presenters:

- Tara Davis, Certification Coordinator, The New York Peer Specialist Certification Board
- Joseph Swinford, Office of Consumer Affairs, NYS Office of Mental Health.
- Amy Colesante, Executive Director, Mental Health Empowerment Project

There are many advantages of becoming a certified peer specialist. Such peers are recognized as being qualified to work with individuals based on “The Shared Personal Experience” paradigm. This recognized qualification is acknowledged by professional affiliations, state, and national legislation.

This discipline enables the opportunity for peer networking, in addition to involvement and impact through NYPSCB sponsored education opportunities and committee work enhancing professionalism in the field and becomes strong basis for employment hiring and professional advancement. Programs utilizing certified professionals to provide peer support services may be qualified to bill Medicaid.

The clients and the family members served become beneficiaries of continuously improved services brought about through standards of training and competency that will meet standards required for licensing, accreditation, and third-party payers. These marketable credentials not only enhance the range of services delivered by the treatment process; they also provide opportunity to establish, maintain, and update the delivery of higher professional standards. This presentation will provide up to date information on Peer Certification.

Registration is required:

[Register:](#)

Event number: 644 498 663 | Event password: nysomh123

Audio conference information

Provide your number when you join the event to receive a call back.

Alternative to call back: You can call one of the following numbers:
Local: 1-518-549-0500

Toll Free: 1-844-633-8697 | Toll Free: 1-866-776-3553

If you use one of the alternate numbers, follow the instructions you hear on the phone.

---- **New York City** ----
July 13, 2017

**11th Annual Peer Specialist Conference
Life & the Art of Wellness**



Kimmel Center, NYU | More details coming soon

----- **Philadelphia** -----
July 24 & 25, 2017



**2017 Summer Institute on
Community Inclusion**

THE STATE OF THE SCIENCE: WHAT DO WE KNOW? WHERE DO WE GO?

[Temple University Collaborative
on Community Inclusion Summer Institute](#)

----- National Conference -----

August 16-18, 2017

Boston, MA



Boston University, Boston, MA

[\(Click here for details\)](#)

----- National Conference -----

August 18-21, 2017

Boston, MA

Alternatives Conference 2017



[\(Click here to learn more\)](#)

---- NYAPRS 35th Annual Conference ----
September 13-15, 2017
Stand Up for Recovery

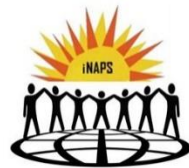


New York Association of
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc.
Recovery, Rehabilitation, Rights

**Hudson Valley Resort & Spa
Kerhonkson, NY**

- [Call for Presentations](#)
- [Scholarship Application](#)

----- National Conference -----
October 16-18
Phoenix, Arizona



**International Association of Peer Supporters (iNAPS)
11th Annual Conference**



Recovering & Sustaining Peer Support
Creating a Path for Our Future

[\(Click here to learn more\)](#)

----- White Plains, New York -----

October 26 & 27, 2017

Inaugural New York (State) Peer Specialist Conference
Leadership, Values, Integrity...

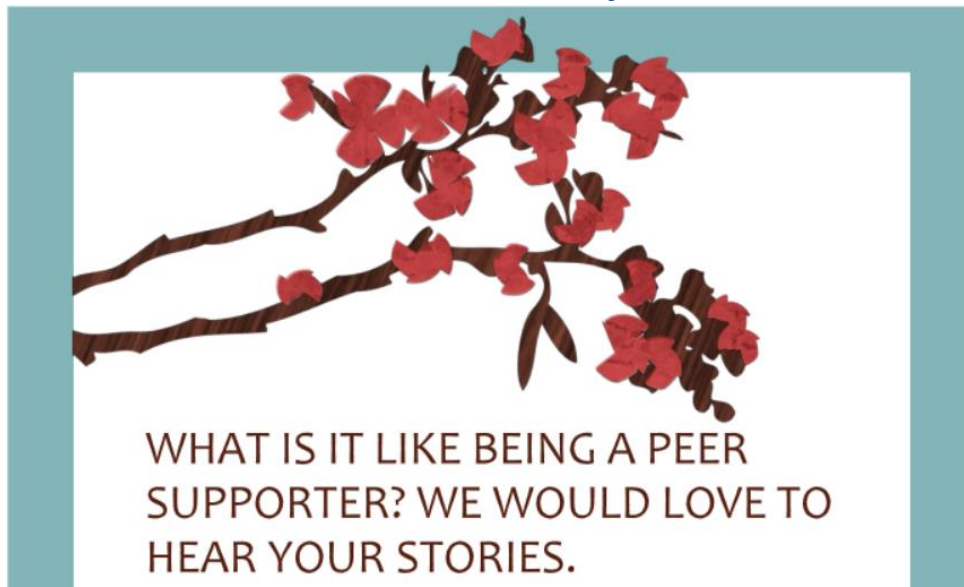
Hosted by the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board
(Crown Plaza Hotel, White Plains)



[\(Click here for more\)](#)

Participate in Research!

---- Yale University ----



WE ARE CONDUCTING A CONFIDENTIAL ONLINE SURVEY TO LEARN ABOUT THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE ON THE JOB AND WAYS YOU HAVE LEARNED TO DEAL WITH THEM.

YOUR INFORMATION WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL BUT SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES (BOTH GOOD AND BAD) WILL BENEFIT THE FIELD.

THE SURVEY WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES OF YOUR TIME. PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW:

[CLICK HERE TO TAKE OUR SURVEY](#)

**YOUR PARTICIPATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!
LARRY DAVIDSON, PH.D.**

---- Yale University / Study #2 ----

Recovery Oriented Services Evaluation (ROSE)

We are part of an advisory council for a national study of recovery-oriented practices in community mental health agencies and wanted to tell you about it. Maria O'Connell, Ph.D. and colleagues from the Yale University Program for Recovery and Community Health are conducting the first nationally representative survey of agencies such as yours and I thought you may be interested in participating.

We are looking for agencies to participate in this very important study that examine the links between recovery-oriented practices, organizational climate, and consumer outcomes.

This study focuses on community mental health agencies with the following characteristics:

- 1) provides outpatient behavioral health services to adults with serious mental illness,**

- 2) offers access to 24-hour crisis services,
- 3) accepts adults with no insurance or offers a sliding fee, and
- 4) is state-funded or receives Medicaid reimbursement.

Taking part in the study:

Participating agencies receive a web link to a brief, anonymous survey for directors/administrators, direct care staff, and supervisors to complete. Each person who completes the survey will receive a \$10.00 Amazon e-gift card for their participation. Agencies with multiple survey responses from directors and staff can also receive a personalized feedback report that summarizes their results, compares their scores to other participating agencies, and provides recommendations for how to promote recovery-oriented care.

The online survey consists of brief demographic questions about your role and work experience in the mental health system, followed by several questions about your perceptions of recovery-oriented care where you work. This confidential survey is completely online, voluntary, and will take about 15-20 minutes to complete. In reporting the data, information you provide will be aggregated at levels of the organization, community, and state and no information will be included that could identify individuals or responses provided by a specific person.

For more information about the study and to view a sample personalized feedback report, please visit

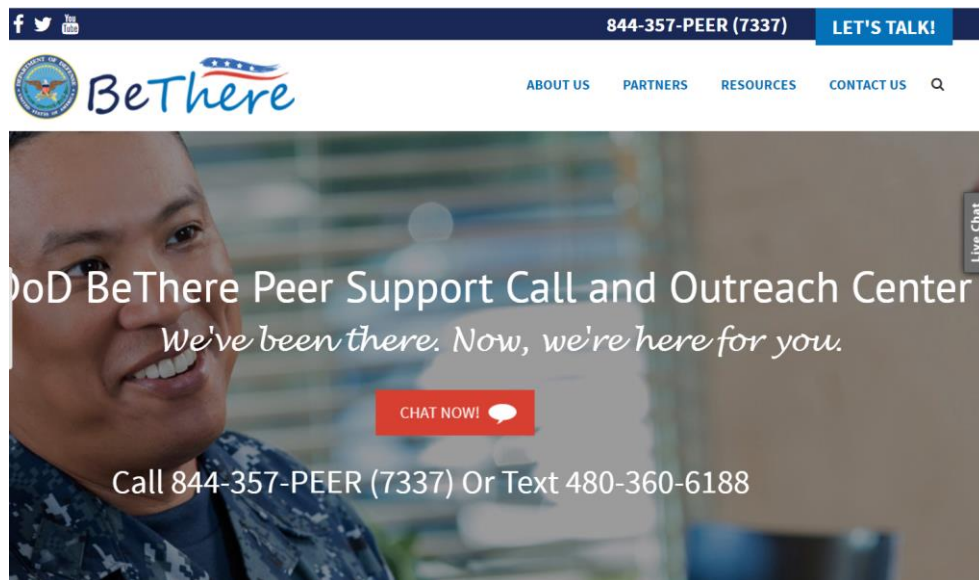
<http://medicine.yale.edu/psychiatry/prch/research/rose.aspx>

If you would like your agency to participate, or have any questions about this study, please feel free to email Stephanie Lanteri at <mailto:stephanie.sangsterlanteri@yale.edu> and we will be happy to answer any questions and provide you with more information. Thank you in advance for your time and support.

New Online Resources

BE THERE PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

24x7 peer support to active duty, national guard, reserve components, veterans and spouses



Be There Peer Assistance Line: (844) 357-7337

www.betherepeersupport.org

[Twitter.com/DoDPeerSupport](https://twitter.com/DoDPeerSupport)

[Facebook.com/BeTherePeerSupport/](https://facebook.com/BeTherePeerSupport/)

Find your National Technical Assistance Center

Thanks to the National Empowerment Center for providing this resource.

A poster titled "Find Your NTAC" with the subtitle "And learn their national focus". It lists six National Technical Assistance Centers (NTACs) with their logos, websites, and national focus areas. Below the list is a map of the United States divided into ten regions, each with a number and a callout box identifying the NTAC for that region. The NTACs are: STARcenter (Youth Leadership), PEERLINK (Employment & Financial Self-Sufficiency), National Empowerment Center, Inc. (Crisis Response), DOORS TO WELLBEING (Peer Specialists), CAFE TA CENTER (Supported Education), and National Empowerment Center (National Empowerment Center).

Find Your NTAC
And learn their national focus

STARcenter
www.consumerstar.org
National Focus: Youth Leadership

PEERLINK
www.peerlinktac.org
National Focus: Employment & Financial Self-Sufficiency

National Empowerment Center, Inc.
www.power2u.org
National Focus: Crisis Response

DOORS TO WELLBEING
www.doorstowellbeing.org
National Focus: Peer Specialists

CAFE TA CENTER
www.cafetacenter.net
National Focus: Supported Education

Region I: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
National Empowerment Center

Region II: DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV
Doors to Wellbeing

Region III: AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN
CAFE TAC

Region IV: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX
STAR Center

Region V: IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI
National Empowerment Center

Region VI: IA, KS, NE, MO
Doors to Wellbeing

Region VII: CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY
CAFE TAC

Region VIII: AK, HI, OR, WA
PeerLink

Region IX: AZ, CA, HI, GU, NV, AS, CN, HI
PeerLink

Region X: Seattle

Region XI: San Francisco

Region XII: Denver

Region XIII: Kansas City

Region XIV: Chicago

Region XV: Boston

Region XVI: NYC

Region XVII: Philadelphia

Region XVIII: Dallas

Region XIX: Atlanta

[Click to enlarge and access links](#)

NEW Guidebook for Peer Respite Self-Evaluation: Practical Steps and Tools

Live & Learn, in partnership with Human Services Research Institute, is pleased to share the new [Guidebook for Peer Respite Self-Evaluation: Practical Steps and Tools](#). This tool is intended to be used to document program operations and outcomes and to build evidence for the efficacy of peer respites. It is intended for use by peer respite program staff, managers, and administrators.

In a world of limited resources, conducting evaluation can be a challenge. We created this guide in response to frequent requests for practical, low-cost or no-cost tools that can be used by programs to evaluate themselves. In 2014, [Live & Learn](#) and [Human Services Research Institute](#), with support from the [National Empowerment Center](#), published the [Toolkit for Evaluating Peer Respites](#). Through our consulting and research since then, we found that programs, governments, and advocates would benefit from a revision to the Toolkit. Specifically, this updated version focuses on concrete, actionable recommendations on “best practices” in self-evaluation (or other low-cost/low-resource approaches).

Whereas the 2014 Toolkit explored a variety of options for formal and informal evaluation of peer respites, this version is focused on establishing a shared framework for self-evaluation that can be used by peer respite staff on an ongoing basis without extensive hands-on involvement of researchers.

The Guidebook is available at PeerRespite.net/Toolkit or navigate to "Evaluation Tools" from the homepage. To request limited complimentary technical assistance on evaluation, please see the [TA page](#).



<http://www.peerrespite.net>

Job Listings

Click the job title for a description of the job.

New York City

Paid Part-Time Peer Positions Available

[15 Peer Speakers for Paid Speaker's Bureau](#)
CUCS Academy for Justice-Informed Practice

The [Academy for Justice-Informed Practice](#) is seeking 15 peers with lived experience in the mental health system to speak with groups of New York City Police officers about their experiences.

Apply by June 16, 2017
(Posted May 23, 2017)

Brooklyn, New York

[Peer Specialist](#)

Services for the Underserved
(Posted May 23, 2017)

We have several full time and part time positions available in Brooklyn, Peer Certification is required (OMH or OASAS). Applicants may send their resume and cover letter to calicea@sus.org or apply via our website <http://sus.org/careers>

Brooklyn (NYC) (multiple listings)

[Family Advocate Position](#)
[Peer Recovery & Permanency Specialist](#)
[Youth Advocate](#)

Institute For Community Living
(Posted May 23, 2017)

New York City

Health Home Outreach Peer Educator

New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)
(Posted May 1, 2017)

Northern NJ

Hospital diversion | Senior Coach

Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey
(Posted May 1, 2017)

Smithtown, NY (Long Island)

ACT Peer Specialist

WellLife Network (PSCH)
(Posted May 1, 2017)

Rochester

Peer Support Specialist *(multiple openings)*

Affinity House

(Posted April 21, 2017)

New York City

Health Home Outreach Peer Educator

New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)
(Posted April 10, 2017)

WANTED – WEBINAR PRESENTERS

Share Your Ideas, Programs, Talents: Present a Webinar for the Doors to Wellbeing Peer Specialist Monthly Webinar Series!



Webinar Presenters Wanted:

Doors to Wellbeing conducts monthly webinar series dedicated to bringing ideas, topics and methods to improve the work of peer specialists. We are looking for new, exciting and innovative presenters for our monthly Peer Specialist Webinar Series. This is a great way to reach the peer community.

If you have never presented a webinar - we can provide technical assistance.

Just click here and fill out this short info form.*

[Click Here](#)

Reminder – SAVE THE DATES

---- Statewide Webinar ----

June 30, 2017

10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. EDT



Updates on the Peer Specialist Certification in New York State

[REGISTER](#)

---- New York City ----

July 13, 2017

**11th Annual Peer Specialist Conference
Life & the Art of Wellness**



New York

Kimmel Center, New York University
More details coming soon

---- NYAPRS ----

September 13-15, 2017

35th Annual Conference: Stand Up for Recovery
[Call for Proposals Due: June 16, 2017](#)

Call for Presentations

September 13-15, 2017
Hudson Valley Resort & Conference Center
Kerhonkson, NY
NYAPRS is seeking proposals
for our 35th Annual Conference:
Stand Up for Recovery!

The NYAPRS Annual Conference is widely regarded as one of the nation's finest training opportunities and a unique celebration of advances in personal and professional strategies and public policies that advance the recovery, rehabilitation, rights and full community inclusion of people with psychiatric disabilities and/or diagnoses.

For over 3 decades, NYAPRS has provided timely information, energizing inspiration and critically valued networking opportunities in a celebratory atmosphere and retreat-like environment nestled within New York's Catskill Mountains.

Please make your contribution to the knowledge and skills of others by submitting a proposal today! This year, we're especially interested in presentations that focus on new service designs and creative and pathways in wellness and healing that are available across the diversity of New Yorkers with behavioral health needs.

Below is a fillable Call for Presentations application.

Featured Speakers
Patrick Corrigan CEO, National Consortium on Stigma & Empowerment
Tom Hill Vice President of Addiction and Recovery, National Council for Behavioral Health
Leah Harris Mother, Advocate and Storyteller
Eva Dech, Training Manager, Intentional Peer Support
Josh Rubin, Health Management Associates
Dr. Kim Grunwald, Buffalo General Medical Center
Sue Bergerson, Consultant
Jeff McQueen, Director of Peer & Veteran Services, MHA of Nassau County
Bevin Croft, Human Services Research Institute
Gayle Bluebird, Consultant
Eduardo Vega, International Bipolar Foundation
Destination Dignity 2018!
Steve Miccio, PEOPLE, Inc
Jonathan Delman, University of Massachusetts

Stand Up for Mental Health!
with David Granizer

www.nyaprs.org • www.hudsonvalleyresort.com

Hudson Valley Resort
& Conference Center
Kerhonkson, NY

---- White Plains ----

October 27-28, 2017

**New York Peer Specialist Conference
Leadership, Values, Integrity...**

SAVE THE DATE!
The New York Peer Specialist Certification Board
Inaugural New York Peer Specialist Conference
Crown Plaza Hotel, White Plains

Leadership, Values, Integrity...
October 26 & 27, 2017

October 26th Celebration of Peer Support @ 9 am- 5:30 pm
October 27th Full Day Conference @ 9 am- 5:30 pm

Registration, Agenda and Hotel Accommodation info coming soon
Sponsorship and Exhibit opportunities are available
Please visit www.NYPS2017.org
or email info@nypeer specialists.org

Crown Plaza Hotel, White Plains
Hosted by the New York Peer Specialists
Certification Board

THANKS!

This digest of announcements and reminders of upcoming events/job openings is also available as a PDF on the Virtual Community, a project of the Academy of Peer Services.

Feel free to share this file!

If you have events or opportunities to share on the Virtual Community website or News Digest, send email to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com.

Visit the Academy Virtual Community to learn more...



<https://virtualcommunityblog.wordpress.com/>