



## Community News Update: March 17, 2021



### Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Welcome to the latest Community News Update, where we share upcoming events, activities, and job openings for the peer support workforce.

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## ACADEMY NEWS

### Final Two Weeks in Term 1, 2021

Dear Academy Learners,

We are now in the last two weeks of our 12-week term ending at 5:00 pm on Monday, March 29, 2021.

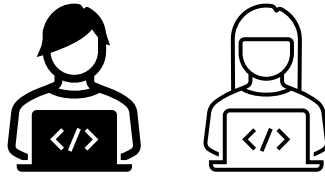
If you are working toward the New York Peer Specialist Certification or renewal, please manage your time accordingly. Course posttests and evaluations for the Core and Elective courses must be completed prior to the end of the term. Our Continuing Education (CE) courses will remain open during the regularly scheduled maintenance period. Here is the 2021 Academy of Peer Services Calendar:

- Term 1 Open 1/4/21 Close 3/29/21
- Term 2 Open 5/3/21 Close 7/26/21
- Term 3 Open 9/3/21 Close 11/29/21

To learn more about the latest CE offerings, as well as all of the courses that are available through the Academy until the term break, visit our [Course Catalog](#).

The newest CE offering, LGBTQIA+ Community and Intersectionality. is available today.

## HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS



### Virtual Learning Community Event:

#### **WRAP and Talking About Tobacco**

This Thursday, March 18, the Academy's Virtual Learning Community (VLC) will host the second in a series of webinars on peer support workers and the importance of Talking About Tobacco. This month's webinar focuses on WRAP® as a tool for exploring wellness, including the impact tobacco use has on wellness. The presenters for this webinar are Gina Calhoun, Chacku Mathai, and Rita Cronise – with a welcome from Amanda Saake, Susan Friedlander, and Regina Shoen. Join us on Thursday, March 18, 3:00 – 4:30 pm. | [Register](#)

For more information about previous webinars that have been offered through the VLC, [click here](#).

### OMH Advisory Committee:

#### **New York State OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)**

Next Monday, March 22, from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, the Office of Mental Health will hold the RAC meeting for recipients and family members. For an agenda, [click here](#). To register, [click here](#).

### Looking for More Events?

#### **Visit our Virtual Community Calendar, Community News & Job Announcements**

The Virtual Learning Community Calendar contains daily training events, webinars, town meetings and more – updated regularly. For the Community Calendar, [click here](#).

Community News is a monthly newsletter that is available on the Virtual Learning Community website. To view the latest Newsletter, [click here](#).

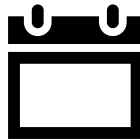
Job openings submitted by employers and a monthly report of current job openings from the major job search companies sorted by job title, location, and employer (courtesy Curtis Dann-Messier and the New York City Peer and Community Health Worker Workforce Consortium) is available on the Virtual Community Website. For the Job Bank, [click here](#).

## Sign up to receive the Virtual Community Updates

To keep email traffic low, this Academy of Peer Services Listserv is dedicated to Academy course-related notifications. We periodically include information about events or meetings that are happening in the community, but maintain a separate email list and website through the Virtual Learning Community for more frequent community-related announcements and events. If you are not already a member and want to stay informed of what is happening in the community, you can “opt in” to the free Virtual Learning Community email list. To join that list: [click here](#).

Thank you for your continued participation in the Academy and our Virtual Learning Community. We wish you a productive remainder of the term. Stay safe and visit us often! Thank you, the APS Team

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



### Upcoming Events

More recently added events will be listed in the Community Calendar. Send your updates to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com)

#### Webinar

March 18, 3:00 – 4:30 pm ET  
WRAP and Talking About Tobacco  
APS Virtual Learning Community | [Learn More](#)

#### Webinar

March 18, 3:30 – 4:30 pm ET  
Gender Dysphoria in Adults: Moving Beyond Diagnosis and Toward Affirmative Practice  
The Center of Excellence on LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Equity | [Learn More](#)

#### Long Island Peer Networking Group

March 18, 3:30 – 5:00 pm ET  
Holistic Healing | [Learn More](#)

#### Webinar

March 18, 3:30 – 5:00 pm ET  
Welcoming Wellness  
Access to Recovery Coalition | [Learn More](#)

**OMH Education Series**

March 19, 9:00 – 10:30 am ET

Vaccine Education for Consumers and Staff of OMH Community Programs

OMH and OASAS | [Learn More](#)

**Webinar**

March 19, 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET

The Connection between Race and Solitary Confinement

NYAPRS | [Learn More](#)

**Webinar**

March 20, 12:30-2:00 pm

Emotional Development in a Time of COVID and Social Unrest

East Side Institute | [Learn More](#)

**Reframing Crisis (Support Group)**

March 20, 5:00 – 6:00 pm

(Every Saturday)

Self-Care, Community Care, Peer Support | [Learn More](#)

**Statewide Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)**

March 22, 8:30 – 12:30 pm ET

Quarterly Advisory Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs | [Agenda](#) | [Register](#)

**Art Exhibit Opens**

March 22, 2021

Online Art Exhibit: Creativity and COVID – Art Making During the Pandemic

Mad In America | [Learn More](#)

**Webinar (Copeland Members Only)**

March 22, 2-3 pm ET

Wishes, Hopes and Dreams: Creating a Life We Love

Copeland Center | [Learn more](#)

**Leadership Forum**

Mar 22, 24, 29, and 31

Virtual Youth Leadership Forum (Register by 3/14)

Families Together/Youth Power | [Learn More](#)

**Webinar**

Mar 23, 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET  
Understanding and Mitigating Vicarious Trauma  
Center for Rehabilitation and Recovery  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Webinar**

Mar 23 and 24, 1:00 – 3:00 pm ET  
Talking with Intention: Effective Communication and Purposeful Self-Disclosure  
The Copeland Center | [Learn More](#)

**Parent Support Institute**

Mar 23-25, 1:00 – 4:00 pm ET  
Parent Peer Support Institute (3 Days)  
Advancing Parent Peer Support: Practice, Program & Policy  
FREDLA | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Meeting**

March 23, 5:15 pm ET  
Support for Supporters  
Every Tuesday, 5:15 – 6:30 pm  
Meeting ID: 889 0219 9174  
Passcode: 702960

**Webinar**

March 24, 4:00 – 5:00 pm ET  
Youth Empowerment  
Queens Transition and College Access Center (TCAC) | [Learn more](#)

**Training Series (Winter 2021)**

March 24-May 12, 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET  
Peer Support in Crisis Services (Learning Collaborative)  
C4 Innovations | [Learn more](#)

**OMH Education Series**

March 24, 5:30 – 7:00 pm ET  
Vaccine Education for Consumers and Staff of OMH Community Programs  
OMH | [Learn more](#)

**Webinar**

Mar 25, 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET  
Policy Development through a Recovery Lens  
NCTAC/CTAC (NYU) | [Learn More](#)

### **Webinar**

March 25, 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET

Recovery Live! Recovery and Resiliency in the Family

C4 Innovations | [Learn more](#)

### **Virtual Job Fair**

Mar 25, 3:30 – 5:00 pm ET

New York City Youth Peer Advocate Coalition | [Learn More](#)

### **Youth Organize!**

Mar 25, 4:00 – 5:00 pm ET

Amplify NY, Presented by Family Resource Network Teen Scene

Families Together in NYS | [Learn More](#)

### **Webinar**

Mar 26, 11:00 – 12:00 pm ET

Changes to Coding and Documentation Evaluation

NCTAC/CTAC (NYU) | [Learn More](#)

### **Training**

Mar 26, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm ET

Mass Incarceration, Criminal Justice, and Mental Health: A Racial Equity Perspective

CUCS | [Learn More](#)

### **Regional Peer Worker Support Circle**

March 26, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

(Every other Friday)

Northeast and Caribbean Mental Health Technology Transfer Center | [Learn More](#)

### **Virtual Training**

March 27, 12-2:30 (Start of the Spring series)

Psychologies of Liberation

Institute for the Development of Human Arts (IDHA)

[Learn More](#)

### **Webinar**

March 27, 12:30-2:00 pm

Improv and Democracy

East Side Institute

[Learn More](#)

### Online Course

March 27 (Start/6-week online course)  
Creating Communities of Hope  
East Side Institute  
[Learn More](#)

### Reframing Crisis (Support Group)

March 27, 5:00 – 6:00 pm  
(Every Saturday)  
Self-Care, Community Care, Peer Support | [Learn More](#)

### Webinar

March 29, 12-1:30 pm  
Part One: Applying MI to Support the Coming Out Process for LGBTQ Youth  
CTAC | [Learn More](#)

### Deadline: March 30

Call for Writing - Submissions for Madness Network News | [Learn More](#)  
Send to: [info@madnessnetworknews.com](mailto:info@madnessnetworknews.com)

### Deadline: March 30

Recruiting Graduates of Trade/Vocational Technology Programs  
Study of Job Seekers with Mental Health Conditions & Family Members  
Rutgers School of Health Professions | [Learn More](#)

### Webinar

March 30, 2:00 pm ET  
Workforce Development of Youth Peer Counselors  
Doors to Wellbeing | [Learn More](#)

### Virtual Job Fair

Mar 30, 3:30 – 5:00 pm ET  
New York City Youth Peer Advocate Coalition | [Learn More](#)

### APS Networking Meeting

March 30, 5:15 pm ET  
Every Tuesday, 5:15 – 6:30 pm  
Meeting ID: 889 0219 9174  
Passcode: 702960

### Deadline: March 31

Submit Art for Outside Outsider Exhibit  
Fountain House Gallery and Studio  
(Exhibit Dates: May 1-30, 2021) | [Learn More](#)

### **Transgender Day of Visibility (Fundraiser)**

March 31-April 30, 2021

Charity Livestream Marathon Fundraise

Transgender Resource Center | [Learn More](#)

### **Webinar**

March 31, 12:00-1:00 pm (Eastern)

Pat Deegan: Using Meds to Help Me Get What I Want

Center for Practice Innovation | [Learn More](#) | [Register](#)

### **Training (2 Days)**

March 31-April 1, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm (Eastern)

Introduction to Peer Supported Community Inclusion

Copeland Center | [Learn More](#)

### **Membership and Support Circle**

March 31, 6-8 pm (Eastern)

Preventing Burnout and Fatigue

New York City Peer Workforce Coalition | [Learn More](#)

### **Support Group**

April 1, 3:00 – 4:00 pm ET

Bi-Monthly Implementation Support - Focus on Integrated Treatment (FIT)

Center for Practice Innovation | [Learn More](#)

### **Deadline: April 2**

Submit Proposal for a Workshop

University of Youth Power (Conference Dates: June 24 & 25, 2021)

Youth Power | [Learn More](#)

### **Conference**

April 5-7, 2021

Global Mental Health Research Conference (Virtual)

Details coming soon on the [NIMH site](#).

### **APS Networking Meeting**

April 6, 5:15 pm ET

Support for Supporters

Every Tuesday, 5:15 – 6:30 pm

Meeting ID: 889 0219 9174

Passcode: 702960



### Webinar

April 10, 2:00-3:30 pm  
Creating Our Mental Health  
East Side Institute  
[Learn More](#)

### Deadline: April 12

Grant Application: Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET)  
Program for Paraprofessionals, HRSA Health Workforce | [Learn More](#)

### Support Group

April 12, 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET  
Mutual Support Call for Mental Health Providers  
MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

### APS Networking Meeting

April 13, 5:15 pm ET  
Every Tuesday, 5:15 – 6:30 pm  
Meeting ID: 889 0219 9174  
Passcode: 702960

### Webinar

April 14, 12-1:30 pm  
Part Two: Applying MI as a Therapeutic Approach to Support LGBTQIA+ Adjustment  
CTAC | [Learn More](#)

### Canadian Peer Specialist Training

April 19-30 (2-weeks)  
Mon-Fri, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm Eastern  
(Robyn Priest) | [Learn More](#)

### 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Executive Seminar

April 20, 22, 28, 2021  
Leadership 2021 | Moving Forward: Taking Charge of Our Future  
Keynotes: Linda Rosenberg, Lenore Reid-Rose, Lonnetta Albright  
NYAPRS | [Learn More](#)

### Peer Specialist Training (10 Week/20 Sessions)

April 20, 22, 27, 29; May 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27; June 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, July 1, 22, 24  
2-4 pm Eastern  
Peer Specialist Training (Robyn Priest) | [Learn More](#)

### **APS Networking Meeting**

April 20, 5:15 pm ET  
Every Tuesday, 5:15 – 6:30 pm  
Meeting ID: 889 0219 9174  
Passcode: 702960

### **Support Group**

April 21, 9:00 – 10:00 am ET  
Bi-Monthly Implementation Support - Focus on Integrated Treatment (FIT)  
Center for Practice Innovation | [Learn More](#)

### **Training**

April 27, 10:00 – 1:00 pm ET  
Regional Orientation for New Staff  
NYAPRS | [Learn More](#)

### **APS Networking Meeting**

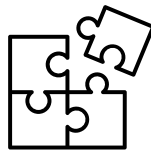
April 27, 5:15 pm ET  
Every Tuesday, 5:15 – 6:30 pm  
Meeting ID: 889 0219 9174  
Passcode: 702960

\*Green headings indicate new entries since the last news update. Red headings indicate deadlines.

For weekly or ongoing meetings visit the [Support](#) page on the Virtual Community Site.

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### **What's Missing?**



Are we missing anything in the Calendar or Support pages?  
Contact us at [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com)

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### **Looking Ahead – May and Forward**

#### **Art Exhibit: Outside/Outsider**

May 1-30, 2021  
Fountain House Gallery and Studio | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Support Group Facilitator Training**

May 3-14, 5-7 pm Eastern

Facilitator Training (Robyn Priest) | [Learn More](#)

**Training (2 Days)**

May 4-5, 12:00 – 3:00 pm (Eastern)

Peer Support Values in Action

Copeland Center | [Learn More](#)

**Virtual Conference**

May 4-5, 2021

2021 Annual Conference: Building Strong Roots

(Pre-conference May 4, conference May 5)

Families Together in New York State | [Learn More](#)

**Older Adult Symposium**

May 6, 2021

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day

SAMHSA | [Learn More](#)

**Training**

May 17, 2021

Family Supported Recovery

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Training**

June 11, 9 AM – 4 PM

A Coach Approach

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Virtual Conference**

Alternatives 2021

July 8, 10, 15, and 17 (4 days)

Alternatives 2021

National Coalition for Mental Health Recovery (NCMRC) | [Learn More](#)

**15<sup>th</sup> NYC Conference for Working Peer Specialists**

July 15, 2021

NYU Kimmel Center (details coming soon)

**Conference**

July 27-28, 2021

NAMIcon (Virtual Convention)

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) | [Learn More](#)

## Learning Collaborative

September 21, 2021 (Start)

Leading with Lived Experience: Building Capacity for Peer-Run Organizations

C4 Innovations | [Learn More](#)

## PARTICIPATE/GET INVOLVED



### WRAP and Crisis Support Survey

The Copeland Center for Wellness and Recovery invites you to fill out a survey on WRAP and Crisis Support. We are seeking community members who have supported someone - including yourself - through a crisis in the past year to share experiences. | [Take the Survey](#)

### For Youth Peers and Supervisors

Families Together in NYS holds regular regional meetings for youth peers and peer supervisors.

- [Learn about youth peer meetings \(YPM\)](#)
- [Learn about peer supervisor meetings \(PSM\)](#)

[Get Involved!](#)

## RESEARCH



### Participate in Research

#### Trade or Technical Careers

Study seeking Individuals with mental health conditions who have graduated from trade or technical programs and are pursuing careers in technical fields. Also seeking input from family members and others who involved in career services, supported employment, supported education and vocational rehabilitation. -- [Flyer](#) -- [Learn More](#)

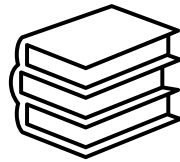
### **People who Smoke and Have a Mental Health Condition**

Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Department of Psychiatry in New Brunswick is conducting an [online survey](#) to evaluate tobacco quitting barriers in smokers with mental health conditions. Eligibility Requirements: Volunteers must be smokers who are 18 years or older.

Compensation: You will be compensated for your time (\$20 gift card).

Visit [www.tinyurl.com/RUTBS](http://www.tinyurl.com/RUTBS) to complete the survey

## **INFORMATIVE RESOURCES**



Pat Deegan's: Using Meds to Help Me Get the Life I Want - From a recent webinar hosted by the Center for Practice Innovations (CPI). See her live session in the Community Calendar on March 31!

<https://practiceinnovations.org/CPI-Resources/Using-Meds-to-Help-Me-Get-The-Life-I-Want>

The Key Update – National Mental Health Consumers' Self-Help Clearinghouse special interest newsletter for the peer community.

[Learn More](#)

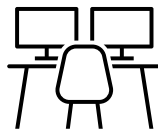
The Wildflower Alliance Newsletter (formerly the Western Mass Recovery Learning Community) See their tribute to Mary Ann and George Ebert

[Learn More](#)

Mindfulness Guide: A Young Adult's Guide to Meditation by NYAPRS' Ruth Colón-Wagner

[Access the Guide](#)

## **LATEST JOB OPENINGS**



### **Virtual Job Fair**

Mar 25th and 30th, 3:30 – 5:00 pm ET

New York City Youth Peer Advocate Coalition --- [Learn More](#)

**New York City**

[Peer Counselor](#)

NYC Health+Hospitals

(Posted 3/17)

**Brooklyn and Queens (Nassau County)**

Peer Support Specialist - 2 Open Positions

Visit the [United Healthcare Careers Website](#)

Search under New York Requisition #'s:

- Brooklyn area – **918066**
- Queens, Nassau County area – **917912**

(Posted 3/8/21)

**Kingston, NY – Ulster County**

[Wellness/HCBS Coordinator – Peer Certified](#)

Mental Health Association in Ulster County, Inc

(Posted 3/4/21)

**Long Island**

[Long Island Regional Youth Partner](#)

Families Together in NYS

(Posted 3/3/21)

**New York City**

[Youth Peer Advocate \(seeking new member organizations\)](#)

NYC Youth Peer Advocate Coalition

(Posted 3/3/21)

**Staten Island**

[Peer Specialist](#)

St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester

(Posted 3/3/21)

**Staten Island**

[Transition Specialist](#)

Staten Island Center for Independent Living

(Posted 3/3/21)

**Morrisonville**

[Peer Support Specialist](#) (HCBS)

Behavioral Health Services North

(Posted 3/3/21)

**Mount Vernon**

**[Certified Peer Specialist](#)**

The Guidance Center

(Posted 3/3/21)

**Niagara Falls**

**[Youth Peer Support Specialist](#)**

Pinnacle Community Services

(Posted 3/3/21)

**New York State**

**[Peer Specialist](#)** – Crisis Stabilization

Citizen Advocates

(Posted 3/3/21)

**Madison County (Oneida)**

**[Peer Specialist](#)**

Liberty Resources

(Posted 3/3/21)

**Oneida**

**[Peer Specialist](#)** – Per Diem

Liberty Resources

(Posted 3/3/21)

Visit our [Open Jobs report page](#) for a detailed listing of openings in the state as reported to multiple employment agencies. The reports are sorted by location, job title, and employer to allow you to quickly find openings that are most relevant to your search. The Open Jobs report is provided monthly by Curtis Dann-Messier, Director of the New York City Peer and Community Health Worker Workforce Consortium.

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**Are We Missing Anything?**



If you have an opening to share or find these new reports helpful, let us know.

Send email to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com).

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## ONGOING SUPPORT



The following is a short list of ongoing support and classes. For more groups and classes, check the Support pages on our site. If your organization is not listed (or if the information is out of date), please let us know so we can share it with the whole community.

If you would like your groups and classes to be featured in the monthly Community News or the bi-weekly News Update, send email with your announcement or schedule to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com).

### **NYC Peer Workforce Support Line**

Wednesdays and Thursdays | 6:00 – 8:30 pm Eastern  
Confidential and staffed by peer volunteers  
929-254-4422

### **Healing Connections –**

9-5 Warm line and Daily Peer Support Groups  
Association for Mental Health and Wellness  
[Learn More](#)

### **Long Island**

Hands Across Long Island (HALI)  
[Virtual Connections Introduction](#)  
Learn more by calling the HALI Warmline: 631-234-1925 x 1

### **Westchester**

Making All Stops on the Talent Express  
Weekly - Now on Saturdays! [Meet Up](#)

### **APS Networking Meeting**

Every Tuesday, 5:15 – 6:30 pm  
Meeting ID: 889 0219 9174  
Passcode: 702960

Topics in discussed in this meeting include:

- Peer Support in Crisis Response
- Police Reform
- Leadership and Community Organizing
- Getting Started in Peer Support, I'm Certified, Now What
- A Day in the Life of a Peer Specialist



- Staying Well While Working
- Developing a Peer Career Ladder
- Making Ends Meet on a Limited Income: Economics 101
- Empowerment, Mutuality, and Equity
- Working through Stigma, Discrimination, and Microaggressions on the Job

Are there other topics you'd like to see and/or give a presentation on? Let us know! Send email to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com).

## POETRY FROM A RECENT APS NETWORKING MEETING

### Go Kart by Cindy Blair

A square wheeled go-kart  
 can't go very fast  
 but a push from a friend  
 will move it forward, at last.

The more friends who push it  
 the more times it goes 'round  
 will shape it and mold it  
 'till its strength can be found.

At first he thought he was broken  
 stuck on a road out of town  
 when new friends and old ones  
 showed him a strength of his own.

Now, that square wheeled go-kart  
 can shimmee along with the best  
 as the square wheels became rounded  
 and only stop when they rest.

### Three Poems by Refried Bean

#### Turkey Turkey Ding Dang (Refried Bean)

You have the wrong motives  
 For coming to the mental hospital  
 Or perhaps you have no motives  
 And that's the problem.

Or maybe you want a turkey sandwich  
 But your society makes you pay an emotional toll  
 For every step you take  
 Towards earning a living

So you come to the mental hospital  
For your turkey sandwich  
Only to find out that here,  
We have coffee too  
And electric shock treatment.  
You can connect the turkey sandwich  
To the electric shock treatment,  
And then there is a roasted treat  
To give your neighbors for Christmas.

Then it will be the staff questioning their sanity, won't it.  
Because they asked Santa for coffee  
Even though there was some here,  
and what everyone got

Was a Christmas goose  
Named you  
Named you  
Named you  
Named Albert  
Happy holidays.

**Another Day but Not Another Dollar (Refried Bean)**

The care bear movie is mad at me  
because I said I don't care.

I said I don't care about some stuff  
like power plays at the hospital.

Power plays for laundry and medicine.  
And hopscotch be bop  
drop scotch mayhem burgers.

There are some grumpy bears here  
and grumpy is my favorite  
but I think I might be  
Aloof bear  
for sitting by myself.

If people hurt me  
then I might suddenly be  
Rude Bear  
or Despair Bear

Or just not my cross to bear.

Please tell the hospital  
I am no longer scared of onions.

**Staying Alive (By Refried Bean)**

We need some people  
to live to tell  
to eat some ice cream  
and all be well  
to pass the torch  
and plant a tree  
so I keep going  
in case that's me.

**A poem for St. PATRICK'S DAY -- FEBRUARY OUT, MARCH IN. by HOWARD DIAMOND**

February out, March in  
Winds this month are often strong  
Hearing it rattle against the garbage bin  
Making winter seem so very long.

It is said March comes in like a lion  
Thirty-one days to make some changes  
Choose them singularly and show your tryin'  
Lots can happen if one takes it in stages.

Hamlet was warned to beware the ides  
Continuing Shakespeare's poem with a riddle  
Perhaps watching the ocean and its tides  
Enjoying the March days from this middle.

St. Patrick Day arrived with the color green  
Shamrocks are placed almost everywhere  
Went to a parade that was the best ever seen  
Singing and dancing was the main theme here.

Winter solstice happens every year  
Grass turns green and flowers bloom  
Wipe away each and every tear  
Spring has much less gloom and doom.

Next month is around the bend  
Hiding in the bushes away from the cam

March is about to come to an end  
As usual going out like a lamb.

HOWARD DIAMOND, A NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED PEER SPECIALIST FROM LONG ISLAND

# Happy St. Patrick's Day!



May this be your Lucky Day!  
Have a Safe and Happy Celebration!  
From the Academy of Peer Services and the Virtual Learning Community.