

April 15 LI Peer Networking Meeting: Creative Connections Campaign with Emily

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Fri 4/2/2021 10:08 AM



Long Island Peer Networking Meeting

LONG ISLAND PEER NETWORKING MEETING

Thursday, April 15, 2021

from 3:30-5:00 pm.

cohosted by Ralph Matalone, Peer Support Line Peer Specialist and,
Jamie Bakr, Outreach and Training Peer Specialist

"Creative Connections Campaign"

Offered by

**Emily Vaianella (She/They), NYCPS, Senior Wellness Specialist, Hands Across Long Island Inc.
(HALI)**

During this workshop, we will explore the unique ways we can connect with our community when feeling isolated; we have all faced loneliness and isolation during a global pandemic, and many of us may have experienced these feelings long before the world shut down.

Our community in psychiatric institutions have been isolated, disconnected from community, and without basic human rights; because of this, and with inspiration from madwomen in the attic's "December Letters Project", we imagined the Creative Connections Campaign at Hands Across Long Island. The purpose of the Campaign is to reach our community in institutions through letters and art to express that we love, we care, and we stand with our community; to reimagine the ways we can connect with others through art and letter-writing, and to bring awareness to the challenges our community faces.

After exploring and navigating these barriers our community faces, we will create a collaborative poem that will be delivered to someone held in an institution. Collaborative poetry includes multiple authors, who write a line and pass it along to the next person; all you will need to bring is yourself and your passion.



Emily Vaianella (She/They)

Emily is a psychiatric survivor and New York Certified Peer Specialist currently working as a Senior Wellness Specialist at Hands Across Long Island. Emily is passionate about learning and growing with their community. In addition to their full-time role at HALI, she is attending SUNY Empire State College to achieve their degree to further support in the goal of advocating for human rights. The peer support community has been vital in Emily's survival and success; She is open about their own experiences with trauma and survival and has been active in the movement since 2014. Emily is dedicated to supporting spaces where we can learn and grow together using the values and principles of peer support and through making genuine connections. Emily has worn many hats in peer services, working in a Respite, Recovery Center, HCBS, the CRW Training Center, Long Island Peer Specialist Community of Practice Board, Long Island RPC Board, bringing her to their current role at Hands Across Long Island, where they have been inspired to imagine, develop, and coordinate the Creative Connections Campaign, as well as a proposed peer specialist learning/training collaborative.

Looking forward to sharing space and thought. Hope to see you there. :)

Join us on Zoom by clicking the link below at the time of the meeting

or

Join us by dialing in on your phone

Call in number:

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: **805 602 794**

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/ab49ZfkmGG>

[Click here to join this meeting!](#)

See flyer below & email: healingconnections@mhaw.org. subject line: *LI PNM with questions, comments, meeting topics, interest in presenting.*

We hope to see you there!

ASSOCIATION FOR
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS



To Advocate. To Educate. To Empower. Together.

Long Island Peer Networking Meeting

3rd Thursday of each month from 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Click here to join: <https://zoom.us/j/805602794> or,

Dial: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 805 602 794



LI Peer Networking Meeting, who are we and why?

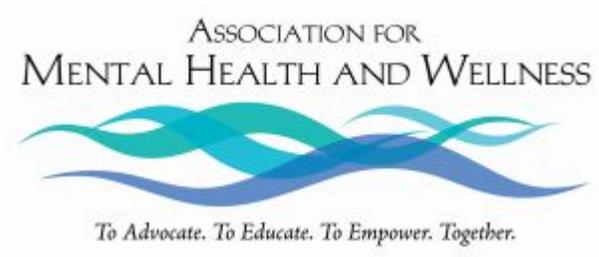
- For and by people who experience emotional distress, voices and visions, extreme and altered states of consciousness, labels of psychiatry, substance use, and trauma/trauma responses to network
- A space to connect, share, discuss, and vibe
 - Email us any Topics of Interest
 - Interested in presenting? Please let us know
 - Please RSVP

Contact:

healingconnections@mhaw.org

631-471-7242 ext. 1390

Jamie Bakr NYCPS-P
Outreach & Training Specialist
(She/Her/Hers)



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