



# APS Virtual Learning Community

## Community News | December 15, 2021

### Remembering Steve Harrington



Steve was the founder of the [National Association of Peer Supporters \(N.A.P.S.\)](#). Many remember him as a kind and gentle man. I remember him for his humor and ability to be the “wise guy.” For more about Steve and the history of N.A.P.S. visit our December 14 entry on the [APS blog site](#).

### Contents

<a href="#">ACADEMY NEWS</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">COMMUNITY CALENDAR</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">RESOURCES</a>	<a href="#">9</a>
<a href="#">GET INVOLVED</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<a href="#">2021 APS Blogs</a>	<a href="#">12</a>
<a href="#">RESEARCH</a>	<a href="#">14</a>
<a href="#">JOB OPENINGS</a>	<a href="#">20</a>
<a href="#">ABOUT THE ACADEMY</a>	<a href="#">24</a>
<a href="#">ABOUT THE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY</a>	<a href="#">25</a>
<a href="#">APS USER SUPPORT</a>	<a href="#">26</a>



## ACADEMY NEWS

Term 1, starts at noon on January 7, 2022. During the break between terms, the Core and Elective courses are closed for scheduled maintenance, but our CE Courses remain open. ([Winter Catalog](#))

**APS Winter Session is open**  
December 1 – January 7, 2022  
Continuing Education courses toward renewal of NYCPS  
Featuring topics:

- About the Peer Model
- Behavioral Health Equity
- Justice Peer Initiative
- Peer Workforce Integration
- Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis
- Supervising From Home
- Supporting Older Adults
- Talking About Tobacco
- Telehealth Peer Support
- Trauma Responsiveness

## About the Break Between Terms

Every three months, the APS Core and Elective courses are offline for scheduled maintenance. Prior to applying for the New York Certified Peer Specialist (NYCPS) certification, you will need to complete the 13 Core courses on the APS site. The next term starts on January 7, 2022.

### APS Calendar for 2022

- Term 1 Open 1/7/22 Close 4/1/22
- Term 2 Open 5/2/22 Close 7/22/22
- Term 3 Open 8/29/22 Close 11/18/22

To learn more about APS, including the Terms of Use, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and User Guide, [click here](#).

## About the Winter Session

Although the APS Core and Elective courses are offline, our CE (continuing education) courses remain available for credit toward the renewal of the NYCPS. We base these courses on recent and/or relevant webinars. New CE courses continue to be added throughout the break between terms, and they will also remain open during the full Term starting on January 7, 2022. For a full listing of Winter Session courses, access the [Winter Session Course Catalog](#).

## About Credit for Computer Basics Courses

Do you need to learn computer skills or get a refresher? Or are you working with people who are just getting started with computer skills? Free tutorials and videos are available through [Goodwill Community Foundation Global \(GCF Global\)](#).

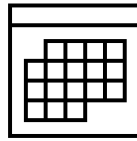


Five GCF Global courses are approved for continuing education credit and they can be found in the APS [Winter Session Course Catalog](#).

## Weekly Networking Meeting

The APS Virtual Networking Meeting is held every Tuesday from 5:15 – 6:30 pm Eastern | [Register in advance](#)

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR



## Please Note:

Events in our **Community Calendar** and **Newsletter** are provided as a public service to our peer support and supervision community.

To find out whether an event is eligible for continuing education for a specific professional association, certification, or program, ask the event organizer directly.

**Announcements in this newsletter are current as of December 15, 2021.**

New announcements are added to our Community Calendar frequently.

Visit our [Community Calendar](#) for the latest additions.

---

## Upcoming Events

### **Activating Peer Support for a Transformed Mental Health Crisis Response System**

December 15, 2021, 1:00-2:15 PM ET

NYAPRS and College for Behavioral Health Leadership | [Learn More](#)

### **Inclusion and Anti-Opressive MH Services**

December 15, 1:00 - 2:30 pm

OMH Office of Diversity and Inclusion | [Learn More](#)

### **OMH Q&A Session on Recruiting and Retaining Certified and Credentialed Peer Specialists and Advocates**

December 15, 1:30 - 3:00 pm

Office of Mental Health | [REGISTER](#)

### **Peer Learning Collaborative**

December 15, 4:30 – 6:00 pm ET

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

### **Coping with the Trauma Effects of COVID-19**

December 16, 10:00 - 1:00 pm ET

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Public Hearing**  
**Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee**  
December 16, 1-4 pm ET  
SAMHSA | [Learn More](#)

**Strategies for Navigating Racism as Minoritized Professionals in Healthcare**  
December 16, 3:30 - 4:30 pm ET  
SAMHSA/CBC | [Learn More](#)

**Long Island Peer Networking Group**  
December 16, 3:30 – 5:00 pm ET  
Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Each Month  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Ethical Considerations for Recovery Coaches**  
December 17, 20, 22, 9:00 – 3:00 am ET (All three days)  
Ethical Considerations  
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Adapting Motivational Interviewing to Telehealth Modalities**  
December 17, 10:00 - 12:00 pm ET  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Credible Messenger End of Year Showcase**  
December 17, 1-3 pm ET  
December End of Year Showcase  
Credible Messenger Justice Center | [Learn More](#)

**Deadline to Apply: NYAPRS Leadership Institute**  
December 18: Limited to the first 15 people to register  
(Leadership Institute Runs January 1 - June 30, 2022) | [Learn More](#)

**Deadline to Apply: MHA Peer Training Academy**  
December 21 - (MHA Peer Training Academy Runs Monday-Friday, 10 am - 2 pm)  
[Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Group (Rockland County)**  
December 21, 12:00-1:00 pm ET, Every Tuesday  
Mental Health Association of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**Bronx Peer Advocacy Center Coat and Clothing Giveaway**  
December 21, 22, 23  
1<sup>st</sup> Annual Coat and Clothing Giveaway –  
369 East 148<sup>th</sup> Street, Between Cortland Ave and Third Avenue.  
[Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

December 21, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET  
Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group  
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Continuing Education for Peer Workers**

December 22, 4th Wed of each month from 4:30 - 6:00 PM  
[Career Chat Flyer](#)  
Careers in Recovery and Wellness Training Center | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Group (Rockland County)**

December 28, 12:00-1:00 pm ET, Every Tuesday  
Mental Health Association of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

December 28, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET  
Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group  
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**NYC PWC Support Circle Schedule**

December 29, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Last Wednesday of each month  
Meeting ID: 947 9771 4425  
New York City Peer Workforce Coalition | [Learn More](#)

**Coming in 2022**

**2022 NYAPRS Leadership Institute**

**January 1 - June 30, 2022**  
(Registration Deadline, December 18)  
[Learn More](#)

**2022 MHA Peer Training Academy**

Orientation Day, January 3, 10 am - 2 pm Eastern  
(Deadline to apply was Dec 21, 2021)  
Monday-Friday, 10 am - 2 pm Eastern  
Ends on January 28 with a Job Fair  
[Learn More](#)

**HALI APS Learning Collaborative**

Starts on January 3  
For more information, click the links below:  
[Flyer](#) | [Schedule](#) | [Office Hours](#)

**Deadline to Submit Application: January 5**

**Howie the Harp Peer Training Bootcamp**

Space is limited to 40 participants  
(12 weeks of training from February 14-May 6)

[Learn More](#)

**The Language of Person-Centered Recovery Planning**

January 5, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Implicit Bias Awareness**

January 5, 10:00 - 12:00 pm ET

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Working with Hearing Voices & Unusual Beliefs (Winter '22)**

January 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 2022 (6 sessions)

Working with Hearing Voices & Unusual Beliefs

Wildflower Alliance | [Learn More](#)

**The Spirit, Principles, & Processes of Motivational Interviewing**

January 6, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Supporting Older Adults Remotely (SOAR)**

January 6-February 10, 5-7 pm Eastern

Digital Peer Support | [Learn More](#)

**Motivational Interviewing (MI) for Beginners: Core MI Skills**

January 7, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Motivational Interviewing with Involuntarily Referred Youth**

January 10, 10:00 - 12:00 pm ET

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Motivational Interviewing (2 Days)**

January 11-12, 9am - 3pm

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Being the "Good Enough" Leader**

January 11, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Talking with Intention: Effective Communication and Purposeful Self-Disclosure**

January 11 & 13, 12PM-3PM ET

Copeland Center | [Learn More](#)

**Session 3: Learning to Let Go**  
January 11 | 2:00-3:00 pm ET  
SAMHSA MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**Deadline to Submit a Proposal: January 14**

[Call for Proposals](#)

NYC Conference for Working Peer Specialists  
(Virtual Conference Dates: July 21 and 28)

[Workshop Submission Template](#)

**Deadline to Submit Application: January 15**

**H+H Peer Academy**

Free training toward NYCPS and CRPA

Part-time online training and support: February – April 2022

Full-time in-person training and internship: May – June 2022

[Learn More](#)

**OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting**

January 24, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

**NYC PWC Support Circle Schedule**

January 26, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Last Wednesday of each month

Meeting ID: 947 9771 4425

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

**Deadline: January 28**

**OMH's 2021 COVID-19 Impact Survey for Recipients of Mental Health Services**

[Flyer](#) | [Survey](#) | [Learn More](#)

**Ethical Considerations for Recovery Coaches**

February 7, 8, 10, 2022 9:00 – 3:00 am ET (All three days)

**Ethical Considerations**

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Session 4: Healthy Positivity**

February 8 | 2:00-3:00 pm ET

SAMHSA MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**Motivational Interviewing (2 Days)**

February 23-24, 9am - 3pm

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**NYC PWC Support Circle Schedule**

February 23, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Last Wednesday of each month

Meeting ID: 947 9771 4425

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

**Session 5: Flourishing Strategies - Outside the Box**

March 15 | 2:00-3:00 pm ET

SAMHSA MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting**

March 21, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

**NYC PWC Support Circle Schedule**

March 30, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Last Wednesday of each month

Meeting ID: 947 9771 4425

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

**Session 6: Build Your Resilience Plan One Day at a Time**

April 19 | 2:00-3:00 pm ET

SAMHSA MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**NYC PWC Support Circle Schedule**

April 27, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Last Wednesday of each month

Meeting ID: 947 9771 4425

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

**OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting**

May 23, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

**OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting**

July 18, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

**NYC Conference for Working Peer Specialists**

July 21 and 28, 2022

Details coming soon



**OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting**

September 19, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

**OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting**

November 21, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

---

Events in the Community Calendar listing were up to date as of **December 15, 2021**.

The Virtual Learning Community online [Community Calendar](#) is updated regularly.

Check back for new announcements.



**Are we Missing Anything?**

If you have announcements or corrections for the online Calendar, send them at any time to

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

**RESOURCES**



**The Key Update –**

Many resources are reposted courtesy The Key Update: The National Mental Health Consumers’ Self-Help Clearinghouse. This monthly newsletter by Susan Rogers always contains important articles that are of interest to the peer support community. | [Learn More](#)

**Computer Basics**

Need to learn (or teach) basic computer skills? The Goodwill Community Foundation (GCF Global) has high quality videos, tutorials, and other strategies for learning computer skills. | [Learn More](#)

You can also take the GCF Global Courses for credit toward renewal of the NYCPS. | [Learn More](#)

## Crisis Response

Crisis Response – Peer Leadership to Develop Community Solutions  
(featuring Harvey Rosenthal and Steve Miccio) | [Recording and Presentation Materials](#)

Correct Crisis Intervention Today (CCIT-NYC) | [Learn More](#)

## Center for Practice Innovations / Resources

The Center for Practice Innovations' (CPI's) consumer and family portal provides many videos and other helpful resources. To get started, visit the website and choose any of the topics listed there. Once you choose a topic area, you will see pictures and titles of videos and other resources. Simply click on any picture or video to get started. | [Learn More](#)

## Peer Recovery Certification Report

The SAMHSA funded National Peer Recovery Center of Excellence (PRCoE) recently released a Comparative Analysis of Peer Specialist Training Program. | [Learn More](#)

## Winter Wellness Planner

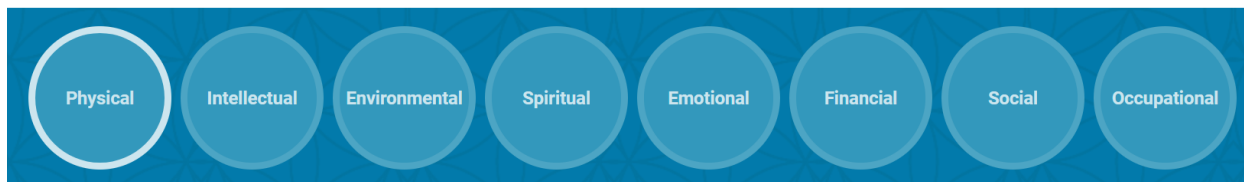
The *Winter Wellness Planner* is one of the most popular wellness tools that can be used individually, with a supporter, or in a group. During the winter months, people may experience extra stress, due to changes in the weather, the light, and personal routines that shift during winter holidays and gatherings.

In this 16-page planner, you will find a series of worksheets that prompt you to think about your wellness habits and routines in the 8 dimensions, and how you can maintain or strengthen your wellness habits and routines throughout the winter months.

- You can download your free [Winter Wellness Planner!](#)
- You can also download the [December Words of Wellness](#)

### Wellness Worksheet & Inventory

- Here's a very handy personalized way to apply the 8 Dimensions of Wellness from its creator Dr. Peggy Swarbrick. For a new resource booklet created by the Wellness Institute at the Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey (CSP-NJ), [click here](#).



To access the Wellness in Recovery (Win-R) inventory, [click here](#).

## GET INVOLVED



### **Bronx Peer Advocacy Center Coat and Clothing Giveaway**

December 21, 22, 23

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Coat and Clothing Giveaway –

369 East 148<sup>th</sup> Street, Between Cortland Ave and Third Avenue. | [Learn More](#)

### **Center for Community Alternatives**

CCA has been a leader in community-based alternatives to incarceration for over 40 years. We promote reintegrative justice and a reduced reliance on incarceration through advocacy, services, and public policy development in pursuit of civil and human rights. There are many active campaigns. | [Learn More](#)

### **Justice Peer Initiative (NYC)**

The NYC Justice Peer Initiative held an update meeting on December 1 to share the latest developments and plans for the future. The recording from this session has been converted to a CE course that is now accessible in the Academy of Peer Services for continuing education. Just look for Justice Peer Initiative in the [Winter Session Course Catalog](#).

### **The Friendship Squad (TFS) Seeking Board Members**

The Friendship Squad, Inc will be a nonprofit 501c3 in 2022. We are seeking three new board members for a total of six. If you are a lawyer, or have nonprofit administration experience, or talented at marketing, communications, social media, video, or event planning, please connect with us.

Mission: To connect people living with behavioral health (mental health & substance misuse) challenges with support, friends and a sense of community, especially for people who are transitioning back from institutional settings (prisons, jails, hospitals, adult homes, nursing homes, etc.). Vision: We want to see a world where all people living with behavioral health challenges live fully and joyfully. [Learn More](#)

### **College Peer Support Survey**

Doors to Wellbeing, MHA, and Temple University Collaborative on Community Inclusion have launched a survey on college peer support. [Learn More](#)

### **New York City, DOHMH Consumer Advisory Board**

The mission of the CAB is to review and make recommendations for existing and future DOHMH policies, programs, services and issues that impact individuals with mental health needs. The CAB will strive to educate, protect human rights and dignity, and further cultural competency for individuals with mental health needs. For the application, [click here](#).

### **Share Your Relapse Story: It Might Help Shape Policy**

We're accepting Anonymous Relapse Stories in order to help others understand how we want to be treated by our loved ones, caregivers, and employers. Please reply to [CityVoices1995@gmail.com](mailto:CityVoices1995@gmail.com) with your story. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **Write to Someone in Solitary**

You can help someone languishing in a prison or jail's solitary cell this holiday season. All it takes is the simple use of an app. | [Learn More](#)

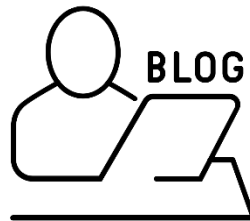
### **Urban Justice is Seeking HARP Members**

Access to Recovery (A2R) is seeking people with lived experience to help shape HARP services. HARP is a Medicaid Plan that provides extra services (like peer support) to individuals. A2R is a coalition of people who are directly impacted by these services to advise OMH on policies and practices around HARP. To learn more and apply, [click here](#). | If you are an Ally of people seeking services, [click here](#).

### **Youth Peer Services Advisory Council**

The Youth Peer Services Advisory Council is made up of youth, young adults, Youth Peer Advocates, and adult allies across the state who have personal experience as a young person with a disability, emotional and/or behavioral health challenge, or experience in New York State systems such as mental health, special education, juvenile justice, foster care, addiction recovery, health care, etc. Our Mission: To utilize our personal lived experience and training to promote voice and choice for young people to be actively engaged in their own services and the service delivery system. We do this by ensuring the integrity of training and credentialing for Youth Peer Advocate (YPA) services. | [Learn More](#)

## **2021 APS Blogs**



In addition to the weekly (every Tuesday) Networking Meeting, APS also hosts a Blog Site, which is another way you can get involved. Here are the articles by guest writers and other articles of interest that have been posted in 2021 to our Blog Site:

- 12/14/21 – [Remembering Steve](#)
- 12/10/21 – [Are We Ready for the Holidays?](#)
- 12/6/21 – [Caregiver Survey](#)
- 12/1/21 – [Winter Wellness Planner](#)
- 11/29/21 – [Native American Heritage Month](#)
- 11/22/21 – [Different Roles for Peer Specialists](#)
- 11/19/21 – [Transgender Day of Remembrance 11/20](#)

11/ 8/21 – [Federal Funding for State’s Mental Health Peer Workforce](#)

11/ 7/21 - [Memories of Jacki McKinney](#)

11/ 5/21 - [GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE](#)

11/ 4/21 - [Federal Funding for State's Mental Health Peer Workforce](#)

11/ 1/21 - [Words of Wellness](#)

10/29/21 - [Funding Opportunity to Expand Peer Capacity](#)

10/28/21 - [Spotlight on MHA Peer Training Academy](#)

10/26/21 - [Timothy Brown](#)

10/23/21 - [Jump In, Become a Peer Specialist](#)

10/22/21 - [How we Celebrated Global Peer Support Celebration Day](#)

10/21/21 - [Advance Employment of New Yorkers with Disabilities](#)

10/20/21 - [Saving Lives, Reducing Trauma](#)

10/19/21 - [GPSCD Proclamation](#)

10/19/21 - [OMH Releases CORE Operations Manual and Guidance](#)

10/18/21 - [Board of Health Passes Resolution Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis](#)

10/18/21 - [In Honor and Memory of Jacki McKinney](#)

10/15/21 - [Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Awareness Month](#)

10/14/21 - [In Memory of Darby Penney](#)

10/10/21 - [October 10 Is World Mental Health Day](#) (Courtesy The Key Update)

10/ 9/21 - [Fall Sports 2021](#)

10/ 3/21 - [Hear Stigma, Think Recovery](#) by Katherine Ponte, For Like Minds

10/ 2/21 - [Unapologetically Black Unicorns](#) features Dr. Jonathan P. Edwards by Keris Myrick

10/ 1/21 - [Words of Wellness](#) edited by Peggy Swarbrick, CSPNJ

9/30/21 - [SAMHSA to Launch New “Office of Recovery” to Expand Its Commitment for All Americans](#)

9/28/21 - [Mayim Bialik’s Breakdown](#) (MBB)

9/27/21 - [When “Not Guilty” is a Life Sentence](#) by Mac McClelland, New York Times Magazine

9/25/21 - [Autumn or Fall](#) by Howard Diamond

8/15/21 - [A Mystery Duo, Wrapped in a Mystery](#) by Howard Diamond

8/ 1/21 - [Outside on an August Afternoon](#) by Howard Diamond

7/30/21 - [March Ahead Again, Yes I Know It’s Summer](#) by Howard Diamond

7/15/21 - [Hope and Faith](#) by Howard Diamond

6/27/21 - [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Launches Rights-Based Community MH Care Guidance](#)

6/25/21 - [June, June, June, for Everyone](#) by Howard Diamond

6/20/21 - [How to deconstruct racism, one headline at a time](#) TED Talk by Baratunde Thurston (submitted by Jonathan P. Edwards)

6/18/21 - [In Celebration of Juneteenth](#) by OMH Commissioner Ann Sullivan

6/17/21 - [How Your Organization Can Recognize Juneteenth](#) by NYAPRS

6/7/21 - How do you know? You’re not even a peer? By Howard Diamond  
<https://aps-community.org/2021/06/07/how-do-you-know-youre-not-even-a-peer/>

6/3/21 - [Our Community Mourns the Passing of Recovery Champion Kirsten Vincent](#)

5/1/21 - [May is Mental Health Month, but More](#) by Howard Diamond

3/1/21 - [February Out, March In](#) by Howard Diamond

2/1/21 - [Do We Want to be a Volunteer?](#) By Howard Diamond

1/15/21 - [January While Reflecting on December and Holidays Are Here and Gone](#) by Howard Diamond

1/1/21 - [Look, Look Ahead 2021 and Wishing for No More COVID](#) by Howard Diamond

1/1/21 - [Link to Past 2016 – 2020 Blogs](#)  
7/10/16 (Original Post) - [Welcome to our Blog Site](#)

## Share Your Creative Ideas and Writing!



We're always looking for guest bloggers or contributions of interest to the peer support workforce. Have you seen an article of interest or news to share? Let us know. We may be able to repost it.

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

## RESEARCH



### OMH's 2021 COVID-19 Impact Survey for Recipients of Mental Health Services

**Please share with people who receive services!**

The Office of Mental Health is conducting a survey to better understand the impact and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic in communities statewide. **The survey focuses specifically on the pandemic's effects on individuals who receive public mental health services.** This input is critical for evaluating, prioritizing, and implementing policy and program decisions. To ensure a comprehensive approach that best meets the needs of service recipients and includes a variety of perspectives, individuals with lived experience were actively a part of the development process. The Office of Mental Health is grateful for their input and leadership.

The Office of Mental Health is looking for **responses from individuals (children/adolescents, young adults, adults) who receive services from any OMH licensed, funded, or designated program.** These programs can include, but are not limited to: clinic, supportive housing, Personalized Recovery Oriented Services, Recovery Centers, Home and Community Based Services, Peer Services, and inpatient services. For a comprehensive list of OMH programs, please visit: <https://my.omh.ny.gov/bi/pd> If you cannot access the website, a list of programs is accessible in the survey. **This survey is anonymous.**

The Office of Mental Health recognizes that some individuals receiving services may have trouble accessing the survey, so we're asking service providers, advocates, and other supporters to reach out to service recipients and complete the survey with them or on their behalf. **If you are filling out the survey on behalf of a service recipient, please answer consistently as that service recipient.** Individuals can also call the Office of Consumer Affairs to participate in the survey over the phone (518.473.6579).

**LINK TO SURVEY:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6545124/COVID-19-Impact-Survey-for-Recipients-of-Mental-Health-Services-2021>

Please click 'Submit' to submit your responses after completing the survey.

[Click here for a paper version](#) of the survey in English. A Spanish version of the survey is forthcoming shortly, and will be available both online and on paper. We encourage providers to offer the survey on paper if a recipient cannot access the online survey. We ask that programs or individuals assisting recipients respond to the survey enter the recipient's responses on the online version. If that's not possible, you can scan surveys and email to [COVIDImpactSurvey@omh.ny.gov](mailto:COVIDImpactSurvey@omh.ny.gov).

Please ensure no personal health information is on the form. OMH has a limited capacity to mail paper surveys — if any of the above options are not feasible, please send a request to: [COVIDImpactSurvey@omh.ny.gov](mailto:COVIDImpactSurvey@omh.ny.gov)

Questions about the survey can be sent to [COVIDImpactSurvey@omh.ny.gov](mailto:COVIDImpactSurvey@omh.ny.gov)

### Research Opportunity- Boston University

## Peer Support Specialists needed for a research study!

The Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University is conducting a research study to support peer providers.



The Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University is conducting a research study to support peer providers. The Center is developing and testing a coaching service called Coaching and Advancement for Peer Providers (CAPP). We need Peer Support Specialists (PSS) to participate in our study.

### Who can participate?

People who are in a paid job as a Peer Support Specialist (PSS) providing support to other people with mental health challenges. PSS who:

- Are employed at least 10 hours per week
- Have worked for the past 6 months in a mental health program
- Are experiencing stress because of challenges in the workplace

### What does the study involve?

- 16 one-hour sessions of coaching over a 4 month period designed to help you with your job
- Meeting online (through Zoom for example) with your coach
- Filling out surveys 1 time before coaching starts and 3 additional times
- You will have a 50/50 chance of getting a coach or having a 1-time meeting to give you information about challenges at work

### Benefits

- You may learn strategies to help make work less stressful.
- You will get \$25 each time you fill out the surveys (\$100 total for all 4 times)

### Other Information

- Everything you share will be private—your supervisor and employer won't know of your involvement unless you choose to tell them
- Your participation is voluntary. You can stop at any time.

For a Flyer, [click here](#).

### University of Arizona - Mental Health/Cancer/Peer Support Study Seeking Participants.

Have you experienced a **cancer** diagnosis, or supported someone through their cancer diagnosis and treatment as a **peer supporter**? If so, you might be someone we'd like to hear from. I'm working with some colleagues to learn about how people who've been involved in the **behavioral health system are treated by medical providers**, how they get useful information about cancer, and how they get emotional support. The project has been approved by the Institutional Review Board which is responsible for human subjects' research at The University of Arizona, **and the actual survey is completely anonymous**.

To see if you meet the criteria for this project and then answer some questions about your experience, click here: <https://redcap.link/PEERS4CANCER>. There will first be a single pre-screening survey question to detect if you are a real person or a computer bot. Seriously. You can also contact us by email at [PEERS4CANCER@email.arizona.edu](mailto:PEERS4CANCER@email.arizona.edu).

### Research Opportunity- University of Maryland

Check out the following flyer for an opportunity for peers to be a part of a research study through the University of Maryland and learn some essential skills for peer interventions! For more information on how you can get \$50 in Amazon gift cards by participating, check out this short informational video or flyer below. If interested in participating or learning more, fill out this brief google form: <https://forms.gle/AAGTWTQzAg8LJGRt8> and/or contact Morgan Anvari at [manvari@umd.edu](mailto:manvari@umd.edu) or call/text 443-405-2849.

\*\*\*For more info watch this video\*\*\*

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g6ye3ewXFrGsvkpcOAtLkvsBNPPjm4pX/view?usp=sharing>



**\*\*Note:** peers do not need to be certified to participate in this study!

A poster for the HEAL Together study. It features a central illustration of four hands of different skin tones (light, medium, dark, and very dark) clasped together in a circle. The background is light blue with faint line art of hands. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font.

HEAL  
Together.

Are you a peer, peer recovery coach, or peer recovery specialist and 18+ years old?

**You may qualify to participate in our study!**

Researchers at the University of Maryland, College Park are offering a -2 hour long training in an evidence-based intervention called behavioral activation. Involvement in this research study will include two one-hour long assessments including intervention role plays.

Dates will be determined based on participant availability. Trainings may be offered virtually or in-person at 1001 W Pratt St, Baltimore, MD or the University of Maryland, College Park

Compensation includes up to \$50 in amazon gift cards. Participants may be able to receive service hours towards peer certification

To express interest or for more information, please email Morgan Anvari at [manvari@umd.edu](mailto:manvari@umd.edu) or call (443) 405-2849

### **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). [Take the Survey](#).

### **Adults who Smoke and also Vape**

Dr. Elias Klemperer at University of Vermont ([Elias.Klemperer@med.uvm.edu](mailto:Elias.Klemperer@med.uvm.edu)) is looking for some help recruiting participants in a research study. Please pass along the following details as appropriate:

- Researchers at the University of Vermont are recruiting **adults under the age of 30 who smoke cigarettes and also vape e-cigarettes** for a remote quit smoking study.
- Eligible participants will be provided with quit smoking treatments for 3 months and answer weekly online surveys.
- Participants who complete all of the study activities, will earn \$343 in online gift cards.
- Visit our website to learn more and find out if you are eligible: [www.uvmquitsmokingstudy.org](http://www.uvmquitsmokingstudy.org)

### **Mental Health Needs of Latinx Adolescents**

NYS OMH and the Suicide Prevention Center are seeking feedback on the mental health and wellness needs of Latina adolescents. Parents in **Monroe, Montgomery, Suffolk or Rockland County** are invited to participate in a research study and attend a virtual Focus Group session to provide feedback and input concerning the mental health needs of and barriers to care for Latina adolescents. Feedback will be used to identify needs and guide recommendations. Sessions are expected to last 90 minutes. A \$15 Amazon e-gift card will be provided.

#### **Participant Criteria:**

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Parent of a Hispanic/Latina adolescent (between the ages of 13-18)
- Live / work in Monroe, Montgomery, Suffolk or Rockland County
- Speak English or Spanish

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact: 518-402-1236

- [Click here](#) for more information in English
- [Click here](#) for more information in Spanish

### **Yale Study of COVID-19's Mental Health Impact Seeks Focus Group Participants with Physical and/or Mental Health Challenges**

A study at Yale University led by people with lived experience is recruiting individuals who live with physical and/or mental health challenges to talk about how their lives have changed since the COVID-19 pandemic started. "The Wisdom project: exploring the impact of COVID-19 on the mental health of persons who experience adverse living conditions" is led by Larry Davidson, PhD, and Ana Florence, PhD. Ana is a Brazilian psychologist, activist, and postdoctoral associate, and Larry is Director of the Yale Program for Recovery and Community Health. If you live with mental and/or physical health challenges and would like to participate, you can email [wisdomprojectyale@gmail.com](mailto:wisdomprojectyale@gmail.com) or call 475-355-5393. "All focus groups will be held virtually, and a \$50 e-gift card will be provided to each participant," the researchers say. (Courtesy The Key Update)

### **Survey Seeks Respondents Who Are in Administrative/Leadership Positions in the Mental Health Field**

If you are in an administrative/leadership position in the mental health arena, "the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry (GAP) Committee on Psychiatric Administration and Leadership invites you to participate in the International Survey on Administrative Psychiatry. The survey has two purposes: 1. To identify the concerns and needs of mental health professionals/psychiatrists in administrative and leadership positions. 2. To determine training needs in administrative psychiatry. We ask you to complete this brief, [15- to 20-minute] questionnaire to help us in developing recommendations for action. We also want to let you know that, if you fill out this questionnaire, you permit the committee to use your anonymous data for scientific work." Peer providers are included. For the survey, [click here](#). (Courtesy of Oryx Cohen/The Key Update)

### **"Experiences with Hospitalization" Survey Seeks Participants**

The purpose of this survey is to help us understand people's lived experience with voluntary and involuntary treatment because of suicidal thoughts. It was created by people with lived experience...We are planning to use this information to facilitate discussions with suicidologists and the suicide prevention community about the impact of the use of these interventions, particularly within marginalized populations. We feel the voice of people with lived experience with these interventions has not had adequate opportunity to be heard, and hope that by completing this survey anonymously, people who have been most impacted can find a safe way to share their experiences. Please note that

this is not a research project. For more information and/or to participate, [click here](#).  
(Courtesy of Leah Harris/The Key Update)

### **International Survey on Antipsychotic Medication Withdrawal Seeks Respondents**

“Have you taken antipsychotic medication (such as Zyprexa, Seroquel, Abilify, Risperdal, Haldol, Geodon, Stelazine, and others), for any condition or diagnosis, with or without other medications? And did you ever stop taking antipsychotics, or *try* to stop taking them? Are you 18 years or older? If yes, you can take this survey about antipsychotic withdrawal and attempts to withdraw, including if you stopped taking them completely or if you tried to come off and still take them. The survey aims to improve mental health services by better understanding medication withdrawal. Lead researcher is Will Hall, a therapist and Ph.D. student who has himself taken antipsychotics. Service users/survivors/consumers from around the world also gave input. The study is sponsored by Maastricht University in the Netherlands; co-sponsors include the International Institute for Psychiatric Drug Withdrawal. Questions? Please contact [will.hall@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:will.hall@maastrichtuniversity.nl).” For more information or to take the survey, click on [www.antipsychoticwithdrawalsurvey.com](http://www.antipsychoticwithdrawalsurvey.com)

### **Peer Support in Higher Education Survey Seeks Respondents**

“Peer support programs are growing on college campuses across the U.S. Mental Health America, Doors to Wellbeing, and the Temple University Collaborative on Community Inclusion want to better understand the availability of peer support in higher education as well as the experiences and needs of students accessing peer support programs...We hope to use this research to support the expansion of peer support in higher education, including developing a national database of peer support programs in higher education and documenting pressing issues in campus programs...You may also indicate if you are interested in having your school’s peer support program listed in a national database of peer support programs in higher education.” For more information and to complete the survey, [click here](#).

### **Many Research Studies Are Seeking Participants**

Mad in America recently posted an assortment of research studies that are looking for participants. The studies include International Online Survey of Members of Peer Support Groups About Their Experiences of Withdrawing From Antidepressants; Study on Psychosocial Disability Advocacy and Global Mental Health; University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine study: Experiences of inpatient psychiatric care among former patients; Dissertation research study: Spiritual/religious experience misdiagnosed as “mental disorder”; Have you had a diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder and decided to stop taking medication?; and others. For details and to participate, [click here](#).

## **Need Participants for a Study?**



If you are a researcher, or work for a research institute, seeking participants for a study of peer support workers and/or supervisors of peer support workers send email with a description of your study to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com) so we can add your research study to the list.

## JOB OPENINGS



### Please note:

Job Openings and Open Jobs Reports are provided as a public service for our learners, our alumni, and the larger community of peer support workers, supervisors, and colleagues of those who provide peer support services.

For more information about a specific job, please contact the employer directly.

### Recent Openings

For the latest jobs that have been submitted to the Academy of Peer Services, visit the [Job Seekers page](#) on our website. This page lists positions submitted directly to us by employers looking for qualified peer support and supervision candidates. (For [Youth and Family Peer Advocate](#) postings, check the listings on [Families Together in NYS](#).)

**Openings are listed in order of submission. Most recent jobs are listed at the top.**

These are updated regularly.

### Current Job Openings

West Babylon/Remote

**[Multiple Postings \(Peer Positions\)](#)**

**[Certified Family Peer Advocate](#)**

Federation of Organizations

(Posted 12/13/21)

Syracuse

**[Peer Specialist- Integrated Health Care](#)**

**[Family Peer Advocate](#)**

Liberty Resources

(Posted 12/8/21)

Rochester

**Peer Specialist**

Liberty Resources

(Posted 12/8/21)

Manhattan, Bronx, Queens

**Peer Program Specialist**

ACMH

(Posted 12/7/21)

New York City

**Executive Director**

NYC Justice Peer Initiative / CASES

(Posted 12/1/21)

New York City

**Peer Corps**

**Flyer**

NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

(Reposted 11/30/21)

Long Island

**Peer Specialist Internship Program**

Hands Across Long Island

(Reposted 11/30/21)

New York City

**Howie the Harp Bootcamp**

(Deadline to apply: January 5, 2022)

Community Access

(Posted 11/30/21)

Buffalo

**WNY OMH Field Office Director**

Office of Mental Health

(Posted 11/30/21)

Union and Essex Counties (**New Jersey**)

**Community Outreach / Community Health Worker**

Iris House  
(Posted 11/23/21)

Rochester and Syracuse  
**Multiple Peer and Family Positions**  
Coordinated Care Services Inc. (CCSI)  
(Posted 11/23/21)

New York City (**Far Rockaway**)  
**Peer Bridger Adult Home Initiative**  
Community Access  
(Posted 11/18/21)

Long Island (**Coram**)  
**CCBHC Recovery Specialist**  
**CCBHC Family Skills Group Practitioner**  
WellLife Network  
(Posted 11/18/21)

Kingsboro (**updated posting**)  
**Peer Specialist Grade 9**  
Kingsboro Psychiatric Center  
(Posted 11/17/21)

OMH Managed Care Bureau  
**Deputy Director | Mental Health Program Manager**  
NYS Office of Mental Health  
(Posted 11/9/21)

Albany  
**Peer Specialist Grade 9**  
Capital District Psychiatric Center  
(Posted 11/8/21)

Utica  
**Peer Specialist Grade 9**  
Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center  
(Posted 11/8/21)

Hudson River

**Regional Youth Partner**

Families Together in NYS  
(Posted 11/8/21)

Bronx

**Peer Specialist Positions**

Mosaic Mental Health Crisis Respite  
(Posted 11/1/21)

Central Region, Hudson Valley, Long Island

**Regional Youth Partners**

Families Together in New York State  
(Posted 11/1/21)

New York City

**Coordinator for DOHMH Office of Consumer Affairs**

(part time position)

NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene  
(Reposted 11/1/21)

**Visit our Job Bank**

The list of jobs in the Job Bank are positions submitted by employers as of December 15, 2021. For more recent job openings submitted to the Academy of Peer Services, visit the [Job Seekers page](#) on our website. These are updated regularly.

There are many more openings available than those listed. You can check through temporary staffing companies and employment agencies like Indeed, Job Zone, Career Builder, and the Dept. of Labor (DOL). To do a search specific to the type of job that you are looking for, review the information below.

**Search Help**

If you want to manually search various employment agencies and staffing companies, use the search terms below that are most relevant to the position you are seeking and enter them with the employment agencies listed below:

Terms used in the Search	Employment Agencies to Search (starter list)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Advocate</li> <li>• Family Peer</li> <li>• Forensic Peer</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://dol.ny.gov/find-job-0">https://dol.ny.gov/find-job-0</a>  <a href="https://www.careerarc.com">https://www.careerarc.com</a>  <a href="https://www.careerbuilder.com">https://www.careerbuilder.com</a></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Peer</li> <li>• Justice Peer</li> <li>• Outreach Specialist</li> <li>• Peer Advocate</li> <li>• Peer Coordinator</li> <li>• Peer Coach</li> <li>• Peer Companion</li> <li>• Peer Counselor</li> <li>• Peer Educator</li> <li>• Peer Mentor</li> <li>• Peer Navigator</li> </ul>	<p> <a href="https://www.dejobs.org">https://www.dejobs.org</a>  <a href="https://www.glassdoor.com">https://www.glassdoor.com</a>  <a href="https://www.indeed.com">https://www.indeed.com</a>  <a href="https://www.jobzone.ny.gov/views/jobzone/guest.jsf">https://www.jobzone.ny.gov/views/jobzone/guest.jsf</a>  <a href="https://www.monster.com/">https://www.monster.com/</a>  <a href="https://www.simplyhired.com">https://www.simplyhired.com</a>  <a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/">https://www.usajobs.gov/</a>  <a href="https://www.workforcenow.adp.com">https://www.workforcenow.adp.com</a>  <a href="https://www.ziprecruiter.com">https://www.ziprecruiter.com</a>  nyc.gov/jobs </p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer Specialist</li> <li>• Peer Support</li> <li>• Peer Supervisor</li> <li>• Recovery Peer</li> <li>• Respite Care</li> <li>• Respite Specialist</li> <li>• Respite Worker</li> <li>• Supportive Housing Specialist</li> <li>• Youth Peer Advocate</li> </ul>	<p> LinkedIn Basics (video):  <a href="https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/linkedin/searching-for-jobs-on-linkedin/1">https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/linkedin/searching-for-jobs-on-linkedin/1</a> </p>

Still looking? There is a list of tips to customize your job search on our [Open Jobs](#) page.

Jobs for Justice Involved: <https://cmicenter.org/careers/>

Regina Shoen (OMH SAS) provided a helpful list to access job openings in NYS: [State Jobs!](#)

## Open Jobs Report

**For an Analysis of the NYC Peer and Community Health Worker Workforce:**

[Report: 2019-2021](#)



### Are we Missing Anything?

If you are an employer with a peer support (or related) opening to share, let us know.

Visit the [Welcome Employers](#) page on our website for instructions on submitting job openings.

## ABOUT THE ACADEMY

The Academy of Peer Services (APS) is free of charge and open to anyone who has an interest in learning about peer support services. To access APS: <https://www.academyofpeerservices.org>



Through the generous support of the New York State Office of Mental Health, APS offers over 70 online self-paced courses, 13 of which are approved for the initial application to attain a New York Certified Peer Specialist (NY-CPS) certification. All of our courses are approved by the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board (NYPSCB) for continuing education on current topics related to peer support services and supervision. To learn more about APS, including the Terms of Use, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and User Guide, [click here](#).

## ABOUT THE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY



The Virtual Learning Community is a companion to the Academy of Peer Services that is intended to help create a bridge from online learning to real world practice. Our Virtual Learning Community website is: <https://aps-community.org>

The site News, Calendar, Job Bank, Support, Resources, and other pages are updated regularly.

If you have questions or anything else to add to our website or newsletter, send email to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com).

To receive updates, join our free Virtual Learning Community mailing list. If you are not already a member of the Virtual Learning Community, sign up for our free mailing list.

To sign up, [click here](#).

## APS NETWORKING MEETINGS



**Join us on** Tuesdays from 5:15 – 6:30 pm Eastern

We provide peer support for peer support workers and share our struggles and successes. We also have special topics that are announced on our email list.

(pre-registration required)

[Register in advance](#)

When you register, watch for an email from Zoom with the link to join the meeting. If you don't receive it be sure to check your Junk folder!

Watch for more announcements in upcoming newsletters from our Network of Community Training and Support Collaborators!

## **APS USER SUPPORT**



If you have questions related to the Academy of Peer Services online courses, contact our User Support Specialist, Maryam:  
[academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com](mailto:academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com)

### **Comments or Questions?**

Send questions, announcements, and updates to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com)