



# APS Virtual Learning Community

## Community News | May 1, 2022

### Welcome to Community News

This update contains a listing of events, activities, and job openings for the peer support workforce.  
For comments or questions, send email to: [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com)

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## Academy News

### Term 2 opens at 12:00 pm noon May 2

The Academy of Peer Services is offered in three 12-week Terms each year. Between Terms, the 13 Core, 28 Elective, and 2 Supervision Track courses are closed for scheduled maintenance. The full Academy will open for Term 2 at 12:00 noon on May 2.

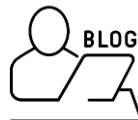
To access the [Welcome to Term 2 Letter, click here.](#)

The Term 2 Course Catalog and other information to help you get started can be accessed in the tabs across the top of the main [Academy of Peer Services \(APS\) website](#). Take time to become familiar with the resources available here and in the Virtual Learning Community site before you start the courses for Term 2.

**Getting Started** – The tabs across the top of the Academy of Peer Services site provide information about taking courses and how they apply toward certification.

About Us	Terms of Use	Course Catalog	Getting Started	Getting Help	Site News	Virtual Learning Community	Certification Board
<b>About Us</b> Describes APS and gives the Calendar of Term opening and closing dates.	<b>Terms of Use</b> Describes what is allowable use of the Academy and what is prohibited.	<b>Course Catalog</b> List of courses available categorized by type (Core, Elective, CE, Supervision)	<b>Getting Started</b> Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and the User Guides	<b>Getting Help</b> How to reach the APS User Support Specialist or other Support	<b>Site News</b> Current and past APS listserv messages	<b>Virtual Community</b> Calendar, Job Bank, Blog, Resources and Events of Interest to the peer workforce	<b>Certification Board</b> A link to the Certification Board website for information about how to apply or where to go for assistance

You can take all 90 of the courses in the Academy free of charge, but you must first complete 13 Core courses and complete other required tasks prior to applying for initial certification. If you are seeking certification, visit [the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board website](#) and review the application to be sure you can complete all of the requirements. APS provides the online courses toward certification, but the Certification Board reviews applications for certification and renewal and will not approve incomplete applications. APS and the Certification Board are separate organizations. For more read the **Ask Maryam** column at the end of the newsletter.



In addition to this monthly newsletter, the APS Virtual Learning Community hosts a blog site, which is another way you can stay informed and also get involved. The following list includes articles over the past two months by guest writers as well as reposts of news items.

**The most recent blogs (since the Beginning of March):**

- May 1, 2022 - [Wellness Institute Calendar \(May\)](#)
- April 30, 2022 - [Time for Mental Health Awareness Month by Howard Diamond](#)
- April 28, 2022 - [If You Think Work is Bad for People with Mental Illness, What About Poverty, Unemployment, and Social Isolation?](#)
- April 16, 2022 - [What Brooklyn’s Subway Shooting Reveals About The State Of Mental Health Care](#)
- April 15, 2022 - [Baseball and Spring are a Remarkable Pair by Howard Diamond](#)
- April 11, 2022 - [Random Act by a Peer Specialist \(Part 1\) by Howard Diamond](#)
- April 5, 2022 – [Funding for Veterans’ Agencies](#)
- April 4, 2022 – [North Country: New Crisis Stabilization Center](#)

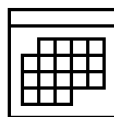
April 2, 2022 – [Opinion: Coercion and Institutionalization Won't Fix NY's Mental Health Crisis](#)  
April 1, 2022 – [Wellness Institute Calendar \(April\)](#)  
March 28, 2022 – [Deep Breaths](#)  
March 27, 2022 – [Increase Care Not Coercion](#)  
March 26, 2022 – [NYS Legislature's Black, Hispanic, Puerto Rican and Asian Caucus Recommendations](#)  
March 17, 2022 – [Green, by Howard Diamond](#)  
March 7, 2022 – [Winter Days, Winter Nights by Howard Diamond](#)  
March 4, 2022 – [Spiritual Autobiography, by Karen Beck](#)  
March 2, 2022 – [HHS Secretary Kicks Off National Tour](#)  
March 2, 2022 – [Celebrating the Accomplishments & Embracing the Challenges of African American Leadership in Our Movement](#)  
March 2, 2022 – [President's State of the Union Address](#)  
March 2, 2022 – [March is Women's History Month](#)  
March 1, 2022 – [TU Collaborative Resources for Remote Community Participation](#)  
March 1, 2022 – [Tickboxes and Tokenism Report](#)  
March 1, 2022 – [UIC Solution Suite for Health and Recovery](#)  
March 1, 2022 – [Wellness Institute Calendar](#)

### 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).

### 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.**

## Save the Dates for these May Conferences & Events

### Families Together in NYS Annual Conference

Building Strong Roots for Success: Today's Vision, Tomorrow's Reality

May 1-2, 2022 | [Learn More](#)

### PEER-A-PALOOZA

Saturday, May 7, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Creating a Zest for Life Through Growth, Resilience, Recovery and Community | [Learn More](#)

### The Neoptolemus Project

May 12, 7:00 - 9:00 pm ET

The production will be followed by a panel of youth, young adults,  
and Credentialed Youth Peer Advocates

Center for Community Alternatives | [Learn More](#)

### Integrated Care Conference: Responding to Crisis - New Approaches

May 16-17

Helio Health | [Learn More](#)

### 5th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day

May 16, 2022

National Council on Aging | [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](#)

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**May 1, 2022**

## Community Calendar

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These are calendar entries for the Community Newsletter, last updated **May 1, 2022**

New announcements are added to our Community Calendar frequently.

Visit our Community Calendar for the latest additions.

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**Words of Wellness:**

[Wellness Institute May Calendar](#)

**Lovingkindness in May**

[31 Days of Lovingkindness Meditation](#)

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**Families Together in NYS Annual Conference**

Building Strong Roots for Success: Today's Vision, Tomorrow's Reality

May 1-2, 2022 | [Learn More](#)

**Cooling Assistance Benefit Begins**

May 2, 2022

HEAP | [Learn More](#)

**Exploring the Values of Recovery-Oriented Practice (for PROS Teams)**

May 2, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET

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

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**

May 2, 3-4 pm ET

Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workers United**

May 2, 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET

[\(Flyer\)](#)

City Voices | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**

May 2, 7 - 8:30 pm ET

Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**What's Great in Our State**

May 3, 8:30 - 3:10 pm Eastern

NAMI NYS | [Learn More](#)

**The Hearing Voices Movement (HVM) Ethos for Personalized Recovery-Oriented Services (PROS)**

May 3, 10:30 - 12:00 pm ET

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

**Enhancing Mental Health Services for the Hispanic and Latinx Community Webinar Series**

May 3, 12:00 - 1:30 pm ET

MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**

May 3, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET

MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Recovery Support Services 101:  
Exploring Basic Terms, Roles and Responsibilities**

May 3, 1:00 - 2:30 pm ET

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

May 3, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET

Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group  
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Art of Letting Go**

May 3, 7:00 pm ET

Yael Lechtchiner | [Learn More](#)

**Building Financial Wellness Classes**

May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1, June 8 (6 sessions)

1:30 - 3:00 pm

CSPNJ | [Learn More](#)

**Adverse Childhood Experiences, and Trauma Informed Practices**

May 4, 10:00 - 12:00 pm ET

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

**Mental Health 101: Overview of Mental Health Issues in the Modern World**

May 4, 1:00 pm ET

*Access Code: 4670871#*

SAMHSA National Prevention Week | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Networking Meeting (AMHW)**

May 4, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET

[\(flyer\)](#)

AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Family Based Interventions**

May 5, 10:00 - 1:00 pm ET

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

**Effective Supervision of Peer Counselors**

May 5, 10:30 - 12:00 pm

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

**Supportive Housing Virtual Learning Community**

May 5, 11:00 - 12:30 pm ET

(First Thursday of the Month)

MHTTC Region 2 | [Learn More](#)

**Introduction to Peer Supported Community Inclusion**

May 5-6, 12-3 pm (2 Days)

Copeland Center | [Learn More](#)

**Access to Recovery (A2R) Coalition Meeting**

May 5, 3:30 - 5:00 pm ET  
(First Thursday of each Month)  
Access to Recovery (A2R) | [Learn More](#)

**Pathways to Justice**

May 5, 6:00 pm ET  
Center for Community Alternatives | [Learn More](#)

**Making All Stops on the Talent Express**

May 5, 7:00 pm ET  
A heart felt and art felt Community  
Meetup | [Learn More](#)

**Mindfulness in the Workplace: Strategies to Support Employees of Color**

May 6, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**PEER-A-PALOOZA**

Saturday, May 7, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Creating a Zest for Life Through Growth, Resilience, Recovery and Community  
[Learn More](#)

**Equalizing Power: Mental Health and the Creation of the Common**

May 8, 12-3 pm  
Institute for the Development of Healing Arts (IDHA) | [Learn More](#)

**National Prevention Week**

May 8-14 (7 Days)  
SAMHSA | [Learn More](#)

**Equity and Inclusion Pre-Conference Event**

May 9, 2022  
Helio Health | [Learn More](#)

**Integrating General Health into Behavioral Health – Evidence Based Approaches**

May 9, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**

May 9, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**

May 9, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**MSR/MAT**

May 10, 9:00 - 1:00 pm ET  
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Family Engagement in the Juvenile Justice System**

May 9, 10:00 - 1:00 pm ET  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Strategies for Responding to Debt Collectors**

May 10, 2-3 pm ET  
NCLER | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**

May 10, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET  
MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**Enhancing Mental Health Services for the Hispanic and Latinx Community**

May 10, 12:00 - 1:30 pm ET  
MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

May 10, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET  
Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group  
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Transition Age Youth**

May 11, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET  
Conversations with Dr. Tony featuring  
Dr. Michelle Munson  
CTAC | [Learn More](#)

**Responding to Stigma: Strategies for Mental Health Supporters, Part I**

May 6, 12:00 - 1:30 pm ET  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**988 is not a joke - National Suicide Prevention Hotline to Launch 988, What's on the Horizon**

May 11, 1:00 pm ET  
*Access Code 8477433#*  
SAMHSA National Prevention Week | [Learn More](#)

**Support for Peer Workers**

May 11, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)



**Youth Risk Behavior Assessment**

May 12, 10:00 - 1:00 pm ET

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

**Youth Justice: Toward a Socially Just, Trauma Sensitive Mental Health System of Care for Young People**

May 12, 12:00 - 1:30 pm ET

CTAC | [Learn More](#)

**Statewide Organizing Meeting**

May 12, 6:00 pm ET

Center for Community Alternatives | [Learn More](#)

**The Neoptolemus Project**

May 12, 7:00 - 9:00 pm ET

The production will be followed by a panel of youth, young adults, and Credentialed Youth Peer Advocates

Center for Community Alternatives | [Learn More](#)

**Making All Stops on the Talent Express**

May 12, 7:00 pm ET

A heart felt and art felt Community

Meetup | [Learn More](#)

**Virtual Discussion: Hispanic and Latino Family Members**

May 12, 7-8:30 pm ET

(Discussion in English)

MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**Trauma Informed Care**

May 13, 9:00 - 4:00 pm ET

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**CRPA / CCAR Recovery Coach Academy Training**

May 16, 17, 19, 23, 24 (9:00 am - 4:00 pm ET Each Day)

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Integrated Care Conference: Responding to Crisis - New Approaches**

May 16-17

Helio Health | [Learn More](#)

**5th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day**

May 16, 2022

National Council on Aging | [Learn More](#)

**Working with Justice Involved Youth: Cultivating Youth Artistry**

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

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

**Forensic Peer Support (8 Days)**

May 16-26, 1-4 pm ET

Mental Health Empowerment Project | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**

May 16, 3-4 pm ET

Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workers United**

May 16, 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET

[\(Flyer\)](#)

City Voices | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**

May 16, 7 - 8:30 pm ET

Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Implementing Harm Reduction Strategies During COVID-19**

May 17, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET

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

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**

May 17, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET

MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**Tuesday Talk: Reshaping Mental Health Services**

May 17 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET

CCSI | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

May 17, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET

Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Conducting Supervision with a Trauma-Responsive Lens**

May 18, 10:00 - 11:30 am ET

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

**Responding to Stigma: Strategies for Mental Health Supporters, Part II**

May 18, 12:00 - 1:30 pm ET

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

**Reducing the Stigma Associated with Mental Health**

May 18, 2:00 pm ET

*Access Code: 5955873#*

SAMHSA National Prevention Week | [Learn More](#)

**Healing Connections Support Group**  
May 18, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET (New Time)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Dialogo abierto con familiares de personas con condiciones de salud mental**  
May 18; Miercoles 28 de mayo de 7:00 pm - 8:30 PM EST.  
MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**Grief Counseling**  
May 19, 10-1 pm Eastern  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Parental Conflict as a Traumatic Stressor**  
May 19, 12-1:30 pm Eastern  
CTAC | [Learn More](#)

**Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Your Therapist/Coach**  
May 21, 1-2:30 pm Eastern  
East Side Institute | [Learn More](#)

**Nourishing Relationships: Trust, Intimacy, and Consent**  
May 22, 12-3 pm  
Institute for the Development of Healing Arts (IDHA) | [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](#)

**Impact vs. Intent: How Individuals (Can) Cause Harm to Each Other**  
May 23, 10-12:00 pm Eastern  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**  
May 23, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**  
May 23, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Beyond Burnout: Self-Care for those working with Trauma Survivors**  
May 24, 10:00 - 1:00 am ET  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**

May 24, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET

MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**If You Think Work Is Bad for People with Mental Illness, What About Poverty, Unemployment, And Social Isolation?**

May 24, 12:00 - 1:15 pm ET

NYAPRS | [Learn More](#)

**When the Conversation Turns to Suicide**

May 24, 26, 31, June 2: 12:30 - 4:30 pm Eastern

Online Training

Wildflower Alliance | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

May 24, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET

Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Supervision Training in a ROSC**

May 25 & 26, 9:00 - 4:00 pm ET

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Engagement and Outreach**

May 25, 10:00 - 1:00 am ET

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

**Responding to Stigma: Strategies for Mental Health Supporters, Part III**

May 25, 12:00 - 1:30 pm ET

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

**What Now? Mental Health in Post-COVID America**

May 25, 2:00 pm ET

*Access Code: 6268721#*

SAMHSA National Prevention Week | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Ongoing Education**

May 25, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET (New Time)

4th Wednesday of each month

AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Coalition (PWC) Support Circle**

May 25, 6-8 pm ET

(Last Wednesday of every month)

NYC PWC | [Join Meeting](#)

**Vamos Conversar!**

May 26; 26 de Maio, 2022 7:00 - 8:30 da noite ET  
MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

**Utilizing Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills to Increase Resilience and Coping**

May 26, 10:00 - 1:00 am ET  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

**Creative Arts Showcase**

May 26, 5:30 - 7:30 pm ET  
MHA Rochester | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**

May 30, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**

May 30, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Deadline: May 31**

**Call for Proposals for In My Mind Conference**

LGBTQ+ Older Adults of Color Mental Health  
Tenacity and Agelessness in Healing  
(Conference Date: October 7, 2022)  
In My Mind | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**

May 31, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET  
MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

May 31, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET  
Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group  
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)



**Events Beyond May, 2022**

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**CCAR Ethical Considerations (3 Days)**

June 1, 2, & 6, 9:00 - 3:00 pm ET  
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Long Island Peer Networking Meeting**

June 1, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Intentional Peer Support Core Training**

June 2, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm ET (10 Sessions)  
Intentional Peer Support | [Learn More](#)

**Supportive Housing Virtual Learning Community**

June 2, 11:00 - 12:30 pm ET  
(First Thursday of the Month)  
MHTTC Region 2 | [Learn More](#)

**Access to Recovery (A2R) Coalition Meeting**

June 2, 3:30 - 5:00 pm ET  
(First Thursday of each Month)  
Access to Recovery (A2R) | [Learn More](#)

**Centered Belonging: Creating Space for Embodied Connection**

June 5, 12-3 pm  
Institute for the Development of Healing Arts (IDHA) | [Learn More](#)

**Recovery Coach Training (5 Days)**

June 6-10, 9:30 - 4:30 pm (30 Hours)  
Phoenix House | [Learn More](#)

**Pennsylvania Peer Support Coalition Annual Conference**

June 6-17, 2022  
[\(Flyer\)](#)  
PAPSC | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**

June 6, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workers United**

June 6, 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET  
[\(Flyer\)](#)  
City Voices | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**

June 6, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting**

June 7-10, 2022

(Social Determinants of Health)

[Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**

June 7, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET

MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

June 7, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET

Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Support for Peer Workers**

June 8, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET

2nd Wednesday of each month

AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Hope and Healing Conference of Western New York**

June 9, 2022

[Learn More](#)

**Credible Messenger Justice Center**

**National Conference**

June 9, 2022

[Learn More](#)

**Mental Health America**

June 9-11, 2022

Forward Together: Recovery, Healing, Hope

[Learn More](#)

**Statewide Organizing Meeting**

June 9, 6:00 pm ET

Center for Community Alternatives | [Learn More](#)

**1st Annual Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA) Conference (Virtual)**

June 10 and 11, 2022 | [Flyer](#)

Queensborough Community College | [Learn More](#)

**Ethics (3 Days)**

June 13-15, 9:30 - 4:30 pm (16 Hours)

Phoenix House | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**  
June 13, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**  
June 13, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**NAMI National Convention**  
June 14-16, 2022  
NAMIcon: Together for Mental Health  
NAMI | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**  
June 14, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET  
MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**  
June 14, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET  
Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group  
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Healing Connections Support Group**  
June 15, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET (New Time)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Holding Difference: Moving Toward Liberatory Futures through Conflict**  
June 19, 12-3 pm  
Institute for the Development of Healing Arts (IDHA) | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**  
June 20, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workers United**  
June 20, 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET  
[\(Flyer\)](#)  
City Voices | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**  
June 20, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**  
June 21, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET  
MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)



**Tuesday Talk: Transforming Crisis Response Systems**

June 21 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET

CCSI | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

June 21, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET

Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Ongoing Education**

June 22, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET (New Time)

4th Wednesday of each month

AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**University of Youth Power**

June 24-27, 2022

The College of St. Rose in Albany

Youth Power | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**

June 27, 3-4 pm ET

Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**

June 27, 7 - 8:30 pm ET

Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)**

June 28, 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET

MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

**APS Networking Group**

June 28, 5:15 – 6:30 pm ET

Every Tuesday Networking/Support Group

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Coalition (PWC) Support Circle**

June 29, 6-8 pm ET

(Last Wednesday of every month)

NYC PWC | [Join Meeting](#)

**Long Island Peer Networking Meeting**

July 6, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET

AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**  
July 11, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**  
July 11, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Working with Hearing Voices & Unusual Beliefs (6 sessions)**  
July 12-14, and 26-28 (times vary)  
Wildflower Alliance | [Learn More](#)

**CCAR Ethical Considerations (3 Days)**  
July 12, 13 & 15, 9:00 - 3:00 pm ET  
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

**Support for Peer Workers**  
July 13, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Statewide Organizing Meeting**  
July 14, 6:00 pm ET  
Center for Community Alternatives | [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](#)

**HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative**  
July 18, 3-4 pm ET  
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workers United**  
July 18, 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET  
[\(Flyer\)](#)  
City Voices | [Learn More](#)

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**  
July 18, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Tuesday Talk: Racial Equity and Data Innovation**  
July 19 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET  
CCSI | [Learn More](#)

**Healing Connections Support Group**  
July 20, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET (New Time)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**NYC Conference for Working Peer Specialists**  
July 21 and 28, 2022  
Details coming soon

**WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)**  
July 25, 7 - 8:30 pm ET  
Wisecrackers | [Learn More](#)

**Anti-Oppression Training**  
July 27-29, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm ET  
In-Person Training in West Springfield, MA  
Wildflower Alliance | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Ongoing Education**  
July 27, 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET (New Time)  
4th Wednesday of each month  
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

**Peer Workforce Coalition (PWC) Support Circle**  
July 27, 6-8 pm ET  
[\(Flyer\)](#)  
NYC PWC | [Join Meeting](#)

**Deadline to Apply July 31**  
Navigator Certificate in Human Services and Community Justice  
John Jay College Institute for Justice and Opportunity  
[Learn More](#)

**Intentional Peer Support Core Training**  
August 2, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm ET (10 Sessions)  
Intentional Peer Support | [Learn More](#)

**Tuesday Talk: Innovation and Transformation in Education through Trauma-Responsive, Equity-Focused Practice**  
August 16 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET  
CCSI | [Learn More](#)

**OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting**  
September 19, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm  
Statewide Meeting  
OMH Office of Consumer Affairs  
[Learn More](#)

**Tuesday Talk: Building Resilient Organizations Through Adaptive Leadership**

September 20 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET

CCSI | [Learn More](#)

**In My Mind Conference**

LGBTQ+ Older Adults of Color Mental Health

Tenacity and Agelessness in Healing

October 7, 2022

In My Mind | [Learn More](#)

**National Association for Rights Protection and Advocacy (NARPA)**

**2022 Annual Rights Conference**

October 26-29, 2022

Newark, New Jersey

NARPA | [Learn More](#)

**The International Conference on Trauma and Mental Health**

November 3-4, 2022

[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](#)

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Events in the Community Calendar listing were up to date as of **May 1, 2022**.

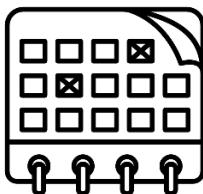
The Virtual Learning Community online [Community Calendar](#) is updated regularly.

Check back for the latest announcements.

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).

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**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)

## Get Involved



### **5K Your Way to Mental Health Awareness**

5K Your Way is an opportunity to raise Mental Health Awareness by completing a 5K in whatever way suits you and show your support for healing, wellness, and community. Any mindful movement or wellness activity works! Some examples: do 5K worth of yoga, tai chi, weightlifting, walking, writing, cooking, knitting, running. Whatever works for you! The Copeland Center encourages empowerment and self-determination towards healing and wellness, which makes this 5K Your Way a great fit for our community. Our practices are grounded in concepts of hope, personal responsibility, education, self-advocacy, support, and connection. | [Learn More](#)

### **Access to Recovery (A2R) / 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](#).

### **Center for Community Alternatives (CCA) is Seeking Advocates**

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](#)

### **Long Island Peer Supervisor Learning Collaborative is Seeking Members**

Series of Presentations on Supervision | [Series Flyer](#)  
Jessica Wolf Presentation: [Slides](#) | [BRSS TACS Self-Assessment](#)

### **National Justice-Involved Peer Support Council is Seeking Members**

Council Mission: to provide national support and networking to advance the benefits, values, and diverse access of peer-supported, peer-operated, and peer-led initiatives for justice-involved individuals/returning citizens. Doors to Wellbeing | [Learn More](#)

### **New York City, DOHMH Consumer Advisory Board is Seeking Members**

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](#).

### **NYC Justice Peer Initiative is Seeking Members**

News from the White House: Biden-Harris Administration Expands Second Chance Opportunities for Formerly Incarcerated Persons! The Justice Peer Initiative (JPI) does not endorse or have any political considerations but when areas are initiated that involve us - WE DESERVE TO BE IN THE KNOW! Sign up to Join our Community: <https://mailchi.mp/707473840384/nyc-justice-peer>  
Or schedule a meeting with the JPI Director - <https://calendly.com/nyc-jpi-exec-dir>

### **NYS Rehabilitation Council Seeks Applicants for 2023-25 Term**

The New York State Rehabilitation Council is currently seeking diverse membership representation for its next 3-year term. Representing New Yorkers with disabilities, the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) works collaboratively with ACCES-VR to provide valued advice and guidance on vocational rehabilitation services to the New York State Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education. The SRC membership is made up of at least 51% of members with a disability and is inclusive of membership of all races and ethnicities, genders, ages, and sexual orientations. [Attached please find the application.](#)

### **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](#).

### **Share Your Tobacco Story: It Might Help Others**

We're accepting stories from people who have stopped or reduced tobacco use in ways that can inspire others. We'll work with you to video record your story and create a gallery of Talking About Tobacco Champions. To learn more, send email to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com)

### **The Copeland Center is Seeking members.**

It's A Great Time to Become a Member of the Copeland Center Community. We have Something for Everyone! | [Learn More](#)

### **Youth Peer Services Advisory Council is Seeking Members**

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](#)

## Research and Groups Conducting Surveys



### **Access to Mental Health, Substance Use, and Physical Health Care**

If you're interested in taking this survey, please use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/AccessSurvey2021>

### **Coaching and Advancement for Peer Providers (CAPP)**

The Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University 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. You will get \$25 each time you fill out a survey (\$100 total/4 surveys.)

[Learn More](#)

### **Credible Messenger Survey**

For the last year, we've been building a robust survey to examine how COVID-19 has impacted the work of Credible Messengers, in collaboration with the New School's Center for New York City Affairs. | [Learn](#)

[More](#)

### **Developing a Culturally Relevant Wellness Model for Young Black Adults!**

We are interested in creating a wellness model informed by the lived experience of young Black adults that may, in the future, be integrated into mental health, substance use, and trauma peer led wellness programs to potentially improve well-being outcomes among this population. We are recruiting participants to provide feedback on a newly developed wellness model, created for and by young Black adults. You don't need to be a researcher to offer ideas. | [Learn More](#)

### **Emergency Preparedness Access-A-Ride Survey**

The Access-A-Ride Reform Group (AARRG!) would like to know about any safety issues you've had while using Access-A-Ride during the ongoing COVID pandemic. It should take you less than five minutes to complete this survey, and your answers will allow us to advocate for better conditions for Access-A-Ride customers. | [Learn More](#)

### **Experience with Private/Commercial Insurance Survey**

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) invites you to participate in a survey to better understand your experiences with private/commercial health insurance coverage of mental health and substance use disorder services. Your contributions will help shape our future policy work and services we may be able to provide to New York City residents seeking behavioral healthcare. The term "private/commercial insurance" refers to health insurance provided by an employer or purchased through the New York State of Health Marketplace, NOT Medicaid or Medicare.

If you complete the survey, you will be eligible to win a \$100 gift card in a raffle. | [Learn More](#)

### **Supporting Each Other Survey (Wildflower Alliance)**

This survey is intended to take a look at what sorts of responses actually feel supportive. The results will be shared in 2022 and will help guide us in our work and training approaches.

[Learn More](#)

### **Supported Education Survey (Courtesy The Key Update)**

Do you operate a program that provides dedicated supported education services for individuals with psychiatric disabilities/mental health conditions? If so, you are invited to complete a survey to help create a National Supported Education Database (NSEdD). | [Learn More](#)

### **TI-ROSC Community Transformation Academy (CTA) Application Trauma-Informed Recovery-Oriented System of Care**

To address opioid use more effectively and/or stimulant use in your community, the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, in partnership with the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry and the Opioid Response Network, invites you to apply to the Community Transformation Academy (CTA). Through existing community coalitions, or through building new community coalitions, community groups can create and implement a trauma-informed, recovery-oriented system of care (TI-ROSC) that supports and enhances substance use prevention and treatment efforts in your community. | [Learn More](#)

### **World Psychiatric Association**

Working Group on Providing Mental Health Care for Refugees and Migrants invites you to complete a survey on attitudes towards cultural psychiatry and psychotherapy. | [Learn More](#)

### **Researchers: Do you Need Participants for a Study or Survey?**



If you are a researcher, work for a research institute, or are conducting a survey of the peer support workforce (and related populations) and are seeking participants send a description of your study to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com).



## Resources



### **2-1-1 - Need Help? Unsure Where to Go?**

2-1-1 is a number to call for free and confidential community referral for food, shelter, rent assistance, childcare options, and other types of community assistance. | [Learn More](#)

### **988 – New Crisis Hotline in New York State**

Similar to 911, 988 is the new three-digit number that will connect callers with behavioral health crisis counselors. Once it goes live on July 16, 2022, callers who dial 988 will be connected to National Suicide Prevention Lifeline call centers. This easy-to-remember number will change the way we address behavioral health crises in New York State. The New York State Office of Mental Health has created a monthly newsletter that will provide updates, education, and information on 988. To stay current on the development and implementation of 988 in New York, [sign up for the 988 Updates and Education newsletter](#).

### [988 Newsletter \(Northwest MHTTC\)](#)

Special Edition on Mental Health Crisis Line

### **Access to Recovery Events (Recordings)**

Introducing CORE: Community Empowerment 1/28/22 | Medicaid 101, HARP 101, A2R 2/16/22 | [Learn More](#)

### **Cooling Assistance Benefit (HEAP)**

Begins on May 2, 2022 - HEAP | [Learn More](#)

### **En Español Webpage**

Sobre Nosotros, Productos en Español, Recursos de COVID-19, Iniciativa de salud mental escolar del [MHTTC](#).

### **CCSI Rooted in Resilience**

30 Years of Impact Video Series, CCSI | [Learn More](#)

## **Connect Older Adults to Lifelines**

National Coalition on Aging | [Learn More](#)

## **CORE Pre-recorded Webinar**

New York State's (NYS) Office of Mental Health (OMH) and Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) recorded a webinar for all providers of CORE Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) focused on how PSR can be used to support an individual's educational and employment goals. This webinar provides a brief introduction to the Supported Employment and Educational components of CORE PSR, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) rules around service delivery and allowable interventions under Medicaid, changing how we think about employment and educational goals, the differences between BH HCBS and CORE PSR, training requirements for staff and supervisors providing CORE PSR, and CORE PSR billing information. [Learn More](#)

## **CTAC | It All Starts with Engagement**

Engaging youth and families is the first step in building a positive working relationship. Click on the links below to check out some of our offerings on the [Self-Learning Center](#) at [CTACNY.org](#) (To access the Self-Learning Center, use the same credentials you would use to log into our Registration System or [CTACNY.org](#)).

## **Behavioral Health News Update**

Note: Steve Miccio is being recognized for the Behavioral Health Advocacy Award | [Current Issue](#)

## **Credible Messenger National Report**

"A Gathering Movement" New Research on Credible Messenger Mentoring Across the US | [Learn More](#)

## **Deegan - Using Medication Optimally to Support Recovery**

Patricia Deegan, Ph.D. published a thought-provoking column in the journal Psychiatric Services called "The Journey to Use Medication Optimally to Support Recovery". In this column, Pat identified eight common challenges people face on this journey. You can access this article [here](#).  
Center for Practice Innovation | [Learn More](#)

## **East Side Institute**

The East Side Institute for Group and Short-Term Psychotherapy is an international educational, and research center for developing and promoting alternative and [radically humanizing approaches](#) in psychology, education and community building.

[View their Calendar](#) | [Learn More](#)

**Equity as a Foundation for Leadership**  
The College for Behavioral Health Leadership

Leaders must embody equity as an operating principle – as a mindset – to transform behavioral health systems. To learn more about the experiences of and recommendations for developing equity-grounded leaders and prioritizing health equity, see the [report](#). | [Learn More](#)

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: Inclusive Language Guidelines (APA)**  
[Learn More](#)

**HIV and Aging Resources**

Recently, a brochure was created and made available about the importance for older adults over the age of 50 to “Stay Connected”. | [Learn More](#)

**Housing and Homeless Resource Center**

This resource provides guidance on helping individuals who are experiencing homelessness obtain identification (ID) documents, including birth certificates, Social Security cards, state-issued IDs, DD214s, and Green Cards. (Repeating the February Newsletter with Toolkit) | [Learn More](#)

**Illness Management & Recovery (IMR): An Overview**

The Northeast and Caribbean MHTTC is offering a self-paced, online, three-part HealtheKnowledge course. This course is an introduction to the Illness Management and Recovery (IMR) program as an evidence-based practice that helps individuals develop tools to manage their mental health conditions, set meaningful goals, and make progress towards their personal recovery.

[Learn More](#)

**May is for Metta**

31 Day of Lovingkindness Meditation (free) | [Learn More](#)

**MHTTC | 2021 Needs Assessment Findings**

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network (Repeating the Findings) | [Learn More](#)

**National Association of Peer Supporters | [Learn More](#)**

**NCLER (Elder Law) Fact Sheet**

Preparing for Medicaid Changes When the Public Health Emergency Expires (Applies to many Medicaid Beneficiaries) | [Learn More](#)

## **NCLER Resources Digest**

National Center on Law & Elder Rights | [Learn More](#)

### **Pathways for Reentry, Employment, and Parenting (PREPARE)**

Prepare offers a range of opportunities to fathers and those who serve in father figure roles to increase their parenting skills while strengthening their relationships. Our programs include job readiness training and employment assistance to increase economic stability for fathers and their families. | [Learn More](#)

### **Provider Wellness**

The Northeast & Caribbean MHTTC is committed to supporting the wellness and recovery of helping professionals such as teachers, mental health providers, and health providers. Helping professionals are critical to supporting others and may experience compassion fatigue and exhaustion. This webpage houses resources that were created to support wellness, thriving, and flourishing for helping professionals in their own lives and work. | [Learn More](#)

### **Racial Equity and Motivational Interviewing**

CCSI's 2021 Consulting Services webinar – “Starting a Dialogue: Consciously Integrating Racial Equity into Motivational Interviewing and Trauma Informed Care”. | [Dialog](#) | [Partnership](#) | [Recording](#)

### **Reflective Supervision**

Curious about what Reflective Supervision (RS) sounds like? Interested in a quick take on why “drive-by” supervision isn't the best supervision? Wondering how you might apply RS to a paperwork issue or other administrative challenge? | [Learn More](#)

### **Resilience in Youth and Families**

What makes someone resilient? Is it their inner strengths? The systems that they are embedded in or their culture? Or is it the support of family and significant others? The truth is that everyone is resilient and all of those factors help us adapt to the challenges that we face.

CTAC Self-Learning Center | [Learn More](#)

### **Rights and Protections Under Parity Law**

New HHS Resources to Help People Seeking Care to Understand and Access Protections Offered Under the Parity Law for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Benefits | [Learn More](#)

### **SAMHSA 2020 Behavioral Workforce Report**

The “Behavioral Health Workforce Report” consists of four parts. First, it describes various types of evidence-based models of care. Each description discusses the various staffing models for both mental

health and substance use models of care. Under workforce supply and demand, the report anticipates the need for 1,103,338 peer specialists to meet the demand in the coming years. | [Learn More](#)

### **SOAR: SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery**

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) is funded by the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#) and is a national program designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the [Social Security Administration \(SSA\)](#) for eligible adults and children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. | [Learn More](#)

### **SSI Online Tool**

We are pleased to tell you about a new [tool](#) people can use to tell us they, or someone they are helping, wants to apply for [Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\)](#) and other benefits. The process takes only 5 – 10 minutes and asks for basic information about the person who wants to apply for SSI. A Social Security representative will schedule an appointment and send the appointment information by mail (or email, if provided). In some cases, a Social Security representative may call to schedule the appointment. | [Learn More](#)

### **Social Security Disability Insurance and Retirement Benefits**

Advocates can support older adults by helping them access a broad range of benefits and programs. [This Practice Tip](#) will discuss the possibilities and considerations for early retirement beneficiaries who may be able to increase their monthly income and access to health benefits by filing for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). **NCLER** | [Learn More](#)

### **SSI Basics - Additional NCLER Resources:**

- NCLER Training: [SSI Basics](#)
- NCLER Issue Brief: [SSI Basics](#)
- NCLER Training: [Pandemic-Related Disaster Assistance for SSI Recipients](#)
- NCLER Practice Tip: [Important Change for SSI Recipients and Applicants](#)
- NCLER Training: [Social Security Overpayments and Low-Income Clients](#)

**NCLER Events:** On April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>, the Social Security Administration is hosting presentations for advocates who would like to hear more about the expanded reopening of Social Security Administration field offices for in-person service. They will also provide an update on their new Electronic Protective Filing Tool and their People Facing Barriers Initiative. These presentations will be offered in two separate Microsoft Teams presentations. Please use the information below to join either session. | [Learn More](#)

### **Supporting Entrepreneurs with Psychiatric Disabilities**

New published research from Live & Learn, Inc. (2021) finds that self-employed individuals with psychiatric disabilities may face unique challenges to running a business. | [Learn More](#)

### **Talking About Tobacco**

APS Series on becoming a champion for helping people to explore options around tobacco use is available for continuing education credit, or to be customized and provided to your organization. [Learn More](#)

### **Telehealth Peer Support Training**

APS Series on Telehealth Peer Support is available for continuing education credit, or to be customized and provided to your organization. [Learn More](#)

### **Telehealth Policy Education**

Do you need to understand more about Telehealth Policy? The following series from the Center for Connected Health Policy (CCHP - The National Telehealth Policy Resource Center) provides the basics. [Telehealth Policy Video Learning Series](#)

### **Trauma-Informed Expressive Arts Toolkit (MHTTC)**

Artistic expression can be healing. Expressive Arts Therapy is the intentional use of multiple arts modalities--such as visual art, creative writing, music, movement, and theater--to promote psychological growth and well-being. Use the Pacific Southwest MHTTC's new [Trauma-Informed Expressive Arts Therapy Toolkit](#) to foster healing and growth through the creative process.

### **TU Collaborative Free Resources for Remote Community Participation**

[Keeping Connected While Staying Apart](#)

### **UIC Solutions Suite for Health & Recovery**

"The UIC Center offers tools, curricula, and implementation manuals for free use in community-based programs, peer-run programs, or one's own life. You can introduce the entire complement of products to foster improved health, wellness, and mental health recovery. Or you can choose the ones that will work best for your program or your life. | [Learn More](#)

### **Veteran Resources**

Post deployment resources for Veterans, MHTTC | [Learn More](#)

### **Weitzman - 3 Amigos of Mental Health**

Michael Weitzman, [View Recording](#) | [Listen to Podcast](#) | [Podcast 2](#)

### **Wellness Institute Monthly Calendar ([View Calendar](#))**

National Mental Health Awareness Month You can find resource kits for Mental Health Awareness Month 2022 For posters on person-first language, visit the American Hospital Association website.

## Other Newsletters



Looking for more news?

Here is a list of newsletters that report on peer support or workforce-oriented news. If you like what you see, be sure to subscribe directly to their newsletter for the latest information from their group or organization.

[Behavioral Health News \(Spring 2022\)](#)

[Doors to Wellbeing Newsletter \(April\)](#)

[Families Together in New York State](#)

[Intentional Peer Support \(April\)](#)

[MHTTC Newsletter](#)

[National Empowerment Center Newsletter](#)

[NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors \(Newsletter\)](#)

[The Key Update](#)

[Wildflower Alliance](#)

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[The Key Update](#) (May)

The National Mental Health Consumers' Self-Help  
Clearinghouse Newsletter

1. Looking For an Effective Mental Health App? *The NY Times* Offers Guidance
2. Free Webinar: "The Role of a Peer within a Clinical Team," with Pat Deegan, PhD
3. MFI to Host *Judi's Room* on "Informed Consent: Forcing Doctors to Warn Their Patients About Psychiatric Drugs"
4. CAFE TAC to Host Mental Health Cross-Disability Community of Practice on May 4, 2022
5. Free Webinars: Disability Rights California to Present Two Peer-focused Webinars
6. Survey Seeks Respondents Who Have Taken Mental Health Courses Involving Their Own Diagnoses
7. Free Webinar: TU Collaborative's Parenting Through Leisure Series Continues May 5
8. Free Webinar: "Working Through Psychosis and Extreme States: An Alternative to Suppression"
9. Free Conference: First Annual (Virtual) African American Behavioral Health Conference to Be Held May 18, 2022
10. Online Symposium asks, "How Can We Imagine the Future of Psychedelic Therapies?"
11. Free Webinar: "If You Think Work is Bad for People with Mental Illness, What About Poverty, Unemployment, and Social Isolation?"
12. Free Webinar: "Ethics in Peer Support," to Be Sponsored by Doors to Wellbeing
13. 2022 N.A.P.S. Conference, 10/19-21, Issues Its Call for Proposals!
14. South Southwest MHTTC First Episode Psychosis (FEP) Conference on June 1-3, 2022
15. "Announcing the Publication of the First Issue of *Including Disability*, one of the Ontario Tech Open Access Journals following the 2021 Disability Summit"
16. NAMI to Host a Virtual Conference June 14-16, 2022
17. Three Articles Focus on the Importance of Service Users in Mental Health Research; a Fourth Article Welcomes a New "Lived Experience" Feature in *Psychiatric Services*
18. Free Webinar: "Recognizing the Inner Voice: Breaking the LGBTQIA+ Conversation Barrier"

19. "Peer Worker-supported Transition from Hospital to Home—Outcomes for Service Users"
20. Free Book: *Reimagining Crisis Support: Matrix, Roadmap and Policy*
21. ISPS-US Issues Call for Proposals for its (Hybrid) 2022 Conference, to Be Held November 4-6
22. ISEPP Invites Mental Health Practitioners and Academicians to Sign Its Open Letter to the Major U.S. Mental Health Professional Organizations
23. 16 Documentaries and 12 Podcasts Explore Mental Health Issues
24. Early Movement Leader Su Budd Has Died at Age 79
25. The May 2022 Digest of Articles Offering Healthy Lifestyle Advice
26. The May 2022 Digest of Articles about the Criminal Justice System, in Which Many Individuals with Mental Health Conditions Are Incarcerated (*and the Key Update continues after this Digest*)
27. FROM PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE KEY UPDATE BUT STILL FRESH!

Read it here! <https://www.mhselfhelp.org/the-key-update-latest>

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### What's your favorite newsletter or blog site?

You can help to promote the work of your group or your favorite peer-organization.  
Send links to newsletters to: [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com)

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## 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.

## Current Job Openings

The jobs listed in the newsletter are current as of May 1, 2022. We receive new job openings from employers regularly. 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.



**Bronx**

[Peer Specialist – Intensive Treatment Living Residence \(Full Time\)](#)

[Peer Specialist – Intensive Treatment Living Residence \(Part Time\)](#)

[Program Description](#)

St. Joseph’s Medical Center

Posted 4/28/22

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**Brooklyn**

[Peer Support Specialist \(field travel\)](#)

United Health Group

Posted 4/27/22

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**Bronx**

[Peer Support Specialist \(field travel\)](#)

United Health Group

Posted 4/27/22

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**Hyde Park, Garrison, Walden, and South Glens Falls**

[Peer Companion](#)

People USA

Posted 4/27/22

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**Long Island**

[Wellness Peer Specialist](#)

Hands Across Long Island

Posted 4/26/22

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**Albany**

[Director of Public Policy & Public Engagement](#)

NYAPRS

Posted 4/26/22

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**Rockland**

[Peer Bridger](#) (full time)

To apply, download and complete this [competency scale](#)

Rockland PC

Posted 4/25/22

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**Queens**

[Peer Bridger](#) (part time)

To apply, download and complete this [competency scale](#)

Creedmoor

Posted 4/25/22

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**Long Island**

[Peer Bridger](#) (part time)

To apply, download and complete this [competency scale](#)

Pilgrim

Posted 4/25/22

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**Suffolk County Long Island**

[Outreach and Training Peer Specialist](#)

Association for Mental Health and Wellness

Posted 4/25/22

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**Westchester County (Peekskill)**

[Peer Specialist](#)

Westchester Jewish Community Services

Posted 4/21/22

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**New York City**

[Peer Counselor \(Multiple Positions, Multiple Locations\)](#)

NYC Health+Hospitals

Posted 4/14/22

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**Oswego**

[Family Peer Support Specialist \(Per Diem\)](#)

Liberty Resources

Posted 4/14/22

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**New York City**

[Peer Specialist, Mobile Crisis Management Services](#)

(Bronx and Brooklyn, per diem)

[Peer Specialist, Intensive Mobile Treatment](#)

(Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens, full time per borough)

[Peer Specialist Liaison, Intensive Mobile Treatment](#)

(Brooklyn, full time)

Visiting Nurse Service

Posted 4/9/22

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**Brooklyn**

[Coordinator Intensive Case Management Services](#)

Kingsboro Psychiatric Center

Office of Mental Health

Posted 4/9/22

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**Albany**

**[Director, Bureau of Managed Care](#)**

Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene (RFMH)

Posted 4/9/22

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**New York City**

**[Peer Bridger](#)**

Community Access

Posted 4/8/22

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**New York City**

**[Senior Training & Implementation Specialist](#)**

Center for Rehabilitation & Recovery

The Coalition for Behavioral Health (CBH)

Posted 4/8/22

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**New York City**

**[Peer Specialist](#)**

Institute for Community Living (ICL)

Posted 4/8/22

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**New York City**

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

Families & Individuals in Recovery (FAIR) Program

Metropolitan Center for Mental Health (MCMH)

Posted 4/5/22

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**Remote**

**[Super Moderator](#)**

Live & Learn, Inc.

(Based in California, but the position can be done from anywhere)

Posted 4/4/22

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**Brooklyn**

**[Patient Navigators](#)**

[Pilot Project \(description\)](#)

NYU Langone Health

Posted 4/1/22

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**Interested in a Career with New York State?**

They are always hiring. | Search [StateJobsNY](#)

Also, check this listing of upcoming [Civil Service Exams](#)

## Visit our Job Search Strategies Page

Still looking? The list of jobs in the Job Bank are positions submitted by employers as of May 1, 2022. 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.

## Job 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

- Family Advocate
- Family Peer
- Forensic Peer
- Housing Peer
- Justice Peer
- Outreach Specialist
- Peer Advocate
- Peer Coordinator
- Peer Coach
- Peer Companion
- Peer Counselor
- Peer Educator
- Peer Mentor
- Peer Navigator
- Peer Specialist
- Peer Support
- Peer Supervisor
- Recovery Peer
- Respite Care
- Respite Specialist
- Respite Worker
- Supportive Housing Specialist
- Youth Peer Advocate

### Employment Agencies to Search (starter list)

<https://dol.ny.gov/find-job-0>  
<https://www.careerarc.com>  
<https://www.careerbuilder.com>  
<https://www.dejobs.org>  
<https://www.glassdoor.com>  
<https://www.indeed.com>  
<https://www.jobzone.ny.gov/views/jobzone/guest.jsf>  
<https://www.monster.com/>  
<https://www.simplyhired.com>  
<https://www.usajobs.gov/>  
<https://www.workforcenow.adp.com>  
<https://www.ziprecruiter.com>  
[nyc.gov/jobs](https://www.nyc.gov/jobs)

LinkedIn Basics (video):

<https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/linkedin/searching-for-jobs-on-linkedin/1>

## Funding Opportunities



**Deadline: May 17, 2022**

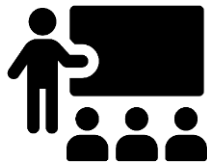
### **Benefits & Work Incentives Navigators**

The New York State Office of Mental Health is providing one-time targeted investments to train **Benefits & Work Incentives Navigators** in OMH-licensed, funded, and designated programs to improve consumer experience and outcomes. [Learn More](#)

This information is also available in the New York State Contract Reporter at:  
<http://www.nyscr.ny.gov/adsOpen.cfm?ID=12EAC2C3-6B3C-44C6-A68A-EBD512321476>.

## APS Training/Support Network

APS has established a network of training and support organizations that meet regularly to share strategies, approaches, and best practices in delivery of live peer support training. These organizations are listed on the Virtual Learning Community website and can advertise upcoming training opportunities through the Virtual Community calendar and newsletter.



[View the Training/Support Network Page](#)

## Training Organizations offering Peer Support Training

Instructor-Led Peer Specialist Training Opportunities  
(Organizations that offer certification preparation based on APS)



Several organizations around the state offer instructor-led peer specialist training based (at least in part) on APS courses. Many of these training programs provide an opportunity to learn in a group environment and to help you to be better prepared to take the tests in the Academy of Peer Services.

**Association for Mental Health and Wellness (AMHW)  
Long Island**

Peer Workforce Readiness Basics and Peer Specialist Training  
Careers in Recovery and Wellness Training Center  
8-week training offered live online through Zoom

**AMHW | [Learn More](#)**

**Howie the Harp**

16 Week Sessions with 12 Week Internship  
Employment Support

Community Access | [Learn More](#)

**Hands Across Long Island (HALI)**

APS Learning Collaborative / Term 2  
Preparation for the APS Tests toward NYCPS Certification

[Learn More](#) | [Schedule](#) | [Office Hours](#)

**Institute for the Development of Human Arts (IDHA)**

View their latest video and year-end report

[Learn More](#)

**LaGuardia Community College**

Mental Health Peer Specialist Training Program  
Preparation for the APS Tests toward NYCPS Certification

[Learn More](#)

**MHA Rochester Peer Academy**

One-month sessions (every other month)

Monday-Friday, 10:00 - 2:00 pm

Goals: Professional Development, Work Readiness and Individual Wellness

[Apply Now!](#)

**MHA Westchester Peer Specialist Training**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Preparation to take the NYS Peer Exams

[Program Brochure](#)

**Mental Health Empowerment Project (MHEP)**

Empowerment Exchange (Troy)

RISE Center (Mt. Vernon)

8-week peer specialist training

[Learn More](#)

**New York City Health+Hospitals**

**NYC H+H Peer Academy**

Free training toward NYCPS and CRPA

[Learn More](#)

Does your organization offer instructor-led or peer facilitated training to help learners prepare for the NYCPS certification? To learn more about joining the Training/Support Network, send email to [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com)

## About the Academy of Peer Services



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 90 online self-paced courses, 13 of which are approved for the initial application to attain a New York Certified Peer Specialist NYCPS or NYCPS-P (Provisional) certification.

All of our courses are approved by the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board (NYPCB) 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 Learning 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 website News, Calendar, Job Bank, Webinar, Support, Research, 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



The APS Virtual Networking Meeting is held on zoom every Tuesday evening from 5:15 – 6:30 pm Eastern.

Facilitators: Rita Cronise and Maryam Husamudeen, with guest speakers and facilitators welcome! | [Register in advance](#)

## APS End User Support

If you have questions related to the Academy of Peer Services online courses, contact Maryam by email: [academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com](mailto:academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com) or by phone during business hours (M-F, 9 AM-5 PM)

## Monthly Column: Ask Maryam



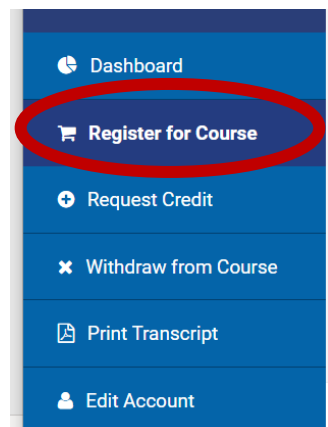
When you send an email for support, Maryam Husamudeen answers your questions. As a regular feature of the newsletter, Maryam will answer some of the most frequent questions she receives from our learners.

### Question: What courses do I need for certification?

There are 2 ways to locate the listing required to apply for certification. The section Learning Paths is a running list of the course requirements. You can also go to the NY Peer Specialist Certification Board and review page 4 of their PDF applications to see the required course list as well.

### Question: I've logged in but can't find the courses

Once the Term closes the CORE and ELECTIVE courses are not available during the scheduled update period between Terms. Once the new Term opens the courses and tests have been reset so **you have to register for the courses again**. Do not create another account. Use your existing account and Register for Course in your dashboard. If you need help, you can reach me for assistance at [academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com](mailto:academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com)

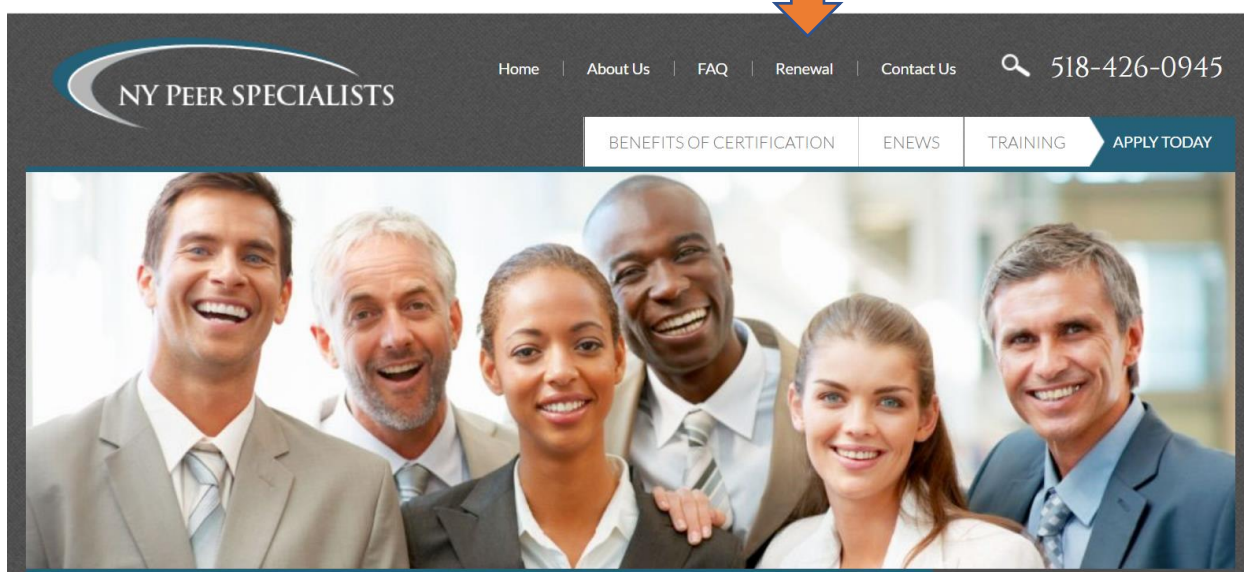




The instructions for registering for course can be found in the "Getting Started" tab on the top of the APS Home page before you Login. Scroll down and click on the [Quick Reference Guide](#) or for more detailed information, go to the [APS User Guide](#).

**Question: What do I need to do to renew my certification? What courses do I need to take?**

The NY Peer Specialist has renewals for 1 year that require 10 credits of completed continuing education (CE), 2 years that require 20 credits and 3 years that require 30 credits. This is a new feature and offers you more options for recertifying. Just like before they do not want you to retake courses you have already successfully completed, they must be new courses you have not earned a certificate for in the past. You can take Electives, Supervision, or Continuing Education (CE) courses to earn the credits on the APS website, then upload them on the NY Peer Specialist Certification Board website by clicking the tab on the top labeled "RENEWAL".



Remember, the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board reviews your application for renewal and approves your certification or renewal. The Academy of Peer Services offers online courses that apply toward certification or renewal but only the Certification Board can approve the application or renewal. The Academy is a completely separate entity from the Certification Board. Questions about certification need to be directed to the Certification Board and their website is <http://nypeerspecialist.org/>. Their email is [info@nypeerspecialist.org](mailto:info@nypeerspecialist.org) and their office number is 518-426-0945. Check with them to confirm your status or for any other questions regarding certification.

**'Ask Maryam'**. If you have a question for the next issue of the newsletter, send it to "Ask Maryam" at [academy.virtual.community@gmail.com](mailto:academy.virtual.community@gmail.com) (the newsletter email address). For other questions you can reach Maryam via the APS User Support email: [academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com](mailto:academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com) or call during business hours (M-F: 9-5) at 917-837-1957.