

RECOVERY COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM RECOVERY MONTH 2002 ACTIVITIES

Recovery Month 2002 is almost here and RCSP projects are, once again, proving that recovery communities can bring this event to life. In fact, recovery communities embody the very spirit of this year's theme: *Join the Voices of Recovery: A Call to Action*.

Below, is a listing of all of the currently funded RCSP grantees and their plans for events and activities. Also included are many of the former grantees from the 1998 cohort, who are demonstrating the tenacity, resourcefulness and sustainability of the recovery community by sponsoring events, often with collaborators and often on a shoestring budget. Overall, the range of events, activities and campaigns is immense and, with full participation from the RCSP, **Recovery Month 2002** promises to be a huge success!

2001 RCSP GRANTEES

Alaska Women's Recovery Project

On Saturday, September 14, in Anchorage, the Alaska Women's Recovery Project will host the *First Annual Community-Wide Family Celebration of Wellness and Recovery*, in collaboration with eight community organizations and support from White Bison. The event will include entertainment, children's activities, food, and prizes. Each organization will provide an information booth, with materials on community wellness and recovery.

Community Recovery Network of Santa Barbara County

At 2:00 PM on Sunday, September 28, CRN will orchestrate the *Circles of Recovery Celebration*. In parks, plazas and beaches throughout the Tri-County area (Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo Counties), people in recovery from alcohol and other drug problems and their friends and family members will stand up and form a circle to celebrate successful recovery in their community.

Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)

CCAR is sponsoring *Recovery Walks!: the 3rd Annual Walk for Recovery from Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction* on Sunday, September 22 in Hartford, CT. For the third year running, CCAR will paint the recovery community "in the light of respect using broad strokes of courage, healing, faith, hope and love."

Dual Diagnosis Anonymous, Inc. (DDA)

DDA is planning a presentation on issues of dual diagnosis to students of Valley College, complete with information booth, on Friday, September 13. On Sunday, September 15, DDA will march with banner and float in San Bernadino's *Red Ribbon Parade* to promote visibility for and challenge stigma against people with dual diagnosis.

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (ECBI)

EBCI is using Recovery Month as a springboard to launch both their project and a media campaign to raise awareness about addiction and recovery in their community. Throughout the month, they will conduct a media blitz featuring billboards, newspaper articles, radio Public Service Announcements and cable television segments that highlight stories promoting the many paths to recovery. In similar fashion, ECBI will be targeting their sports-focused reservation with a message development campaign that will take the form of promotional items distributed during the football season kickoff and the Native American Softball Tournament, both in September.

El Paso Alliance (EPA)

On Saturday, September 22, EPA will host a *Recovery Picnic*, featuring circuit speakers in recovery and showcasing their new Recovery Community Service Center. In addition, they will be holding a “Step Study Workshop” on Friday, September 13 and Saturday, September 14.

Friends of Recovery-New Jersey (FOR-NJ)

On Sunday, September 1, FOR-NJ will kick off Recovery Month at Belmar Beach with a second annual *Sunrise Celebration of Recovery* with music, readings, stories and spirituality. The FOR-NJ *Recovery Walk* will take place at the NJ Statehouse in Trenton on Sunday, September 22. The walk will include a candle-lighting ceremony, speakers and presentations to underscore the power and visibility of recovery. The group will close out the month with an *Open House*, with speakers, presentations and door prizes given away to lucky participants.

Friends of Recovery-Rockland (FOR-Rockland)

Throughout the month of September, FOR-Rockland will hand a banner on Main Street in downtown Nyack, NY that reads *Celebrate Recovery: Addiction Recovery is a Reality*. On Saturday, September 21, FOR-Rockland will present a staged reading of a new play entitled, “Choosing Sides,” taking a humorous look at the serious subject of alcoholism. On the following day (Sunday, September 22), FOR-Rockland will invite the recovery community to talk about "12-Stepping" society in a *Share-a-Day/Round-up*. On Monday, September 30, FOR-Rockland has invited three NYS legislators to a *Legislator-Hosted Recovery Forum* to discuss making addiction recovery more visible in Rockland County. As part of FOR-Rockland’s Educational Series, Harlan Pruden of SpeakOUT will give a presentation on LGBT people in recovery on Sunday, September 29,

Frontier Recovery Network (FRN)

FRN will sponsor two regional recovery picnics that will feature food, entertainment and short speeches by local dignitaries and folks in recovery. The Washoe County (Reno/Sparks area) picnic will be on Saturday, September 28 and the picnic in Clark County (Las Vegas area) will be on Sunday, September 29. Throughout the month in rural communities, people in recovery will be writing articles for local papers, appearing on radio talk shows and selected mayors will be issuing proclamations, officially designating September as Recovery Month in their towns and jurisdictions.

Full Circle (Easy Does It)

Saturday, September 7 is *World Drum Day* and Full Circle will use it to announce Recovery Month as they pound out a recovery celebration of music, rhythm, movement and healing. On Saturday, September 21, Full Circle's Family and Youth work group will coordinate a recovery street fair. Easy Does It is also a collaborator on the PRO-A sponsored statewide recovery conference.

Guadalupe-Community Oriented Recovery Effort (G-Core)

On Friday, September 20, G-CORE will host a mini-conference, entitled *Claiming Recovery Through Individual, Family & Community Wellness*. The conference will offer experiential sharing sessions, identifying levels of community wellness.

New England Alliance for Addiction Recovery (NEAAR)

□ Friends of Recovery – New Hampshire (FOR-NH)

FOR-NH will be holding their Annual Meeting for general membership on Friday, September 13 in Bedford, NH. Activities following the meeting include a networking dinner and the screening of a movie with a recovery theme. On the day prior to the meeting, the Mayor of Nashua will issue a proclamation, officially citing September 2002 as Recovery Month. Also in Nashua, FOR-NH will host a community recovery celebration to enhance public awareness of recovery, called *Gratitude in the Park*, on Saturday, September 28. The daylong event will offer games, entertainment (including a recovery band) and a barbecue.

□ Friends of Recovery – Vermont (FOR-Vermont)

On Saturday, September 21, FOR-Vermont will hold, as part of its *Celebrate Recovery* theme, a AOD-free community dance, co-sponsored with Central Vermont Community Partnership. In keeping with the *Celebrate Recovery* theme, FOR-Vermont will hosts its 3rd *Annual Meeting and Luncheon*, that will include workshops and topic discussions, on Thursday, September 26, at Capitol Plaza in Montpelier.

□ Maine Alliance for Addiction Recovery (MAAR)

MAAR has planned a *Recovery Celebration Day* at the Augusta Civic center on Thursday, September 5 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Earnie Larsen, a well-known Hazelden author, will be featured as the keynote speaker.

□ Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR)

MOAR will celebrate its *12th Annual Recovery Month Celebration Day* on Wednesday, September 25 at the Massachusetts State House and Boston's City Hall Plaza. The day will include members of the recovery community telling their stories of addiction and recovery.

□ Rhode Island Communities for Addiction Recovery (RICAREs)

RICAREs will be hosting their Third Annual Legislative Day at the RI State House on Tuesday, September 10. The purpose of this event is to increase community awareness and to educate the public, media and legislators about

addiction and recovery. The day will include a panel of participants telling their stories of recovery. Also, public honor and recognition will be given to community members who have done great work for those seeking recovery.

Nashville Area Recovery Alliance (NARA)

NARA is busy working to produce a *RecoveryFest 2002 – A Celebration of the Positive Story of Recovery* in downtown Nashville on Saturday, September 7, followed by a concert by music industry entertainers who are friends of the recovery community. This alcohol and drug free event will promote the positive message of recovery and the recovery lifestyle to Nashville and the Middle Tennessee area.

People With Recovery and Disabilities (PWRD)

PWRD, in collaboration with a host of community health and recovery groups, has organized the fourth annual *Recovery Expo 2002*. This event will bring people together to enjoy recovery speakers, games, informational booths, entertainment, 12 Step meetings, food and lots of fun.

Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance (PRO-A)

PRO-A will host their third annual statewide recovery conference, entitled, *We Can Change the Way We See Our World*, on Monday, September 23 and Tuesday, September 24 in Harrisburg, PA, which will include a track of workshops on peer-driven recovery service. The conference will culminate in a Rally for Recovery at the State Capitol Building, highlighting guest speakers in recovery. In addition, PRO-A will host three separate regional walk-a-thons, called *Walk for Recovery*, in Harrisburg and Pittsburgh on Saturday, September 28 and in Valley Forge National Park (PRO-ACT) on Sunday, September 29.

Promoting Recovery Organizations-Achieving Community Together (PRO-ACT)

In addition to the Walk for Recovery in Valley Forge National Park on Sunday, September 29, PRO-ACT is sponsoring a sober music fest on Saturday, September 21. On Monday, September 9 and Tuesday, September 10, PRO-ACT will participate in the CSAT-sponsored *Conference on Pharmacotherapy and Narcotic Dependency: Best and Promising Practices*, to be held in Bucks County.

Proyecto Bienestar

On Saturday, September 21, Proyecto Bienestar will collaborate with three faith-based communities to sponsor a candle light walk and vigil called, *Light Up for Recovery*. The event will include food, entertainment, recovery testimonies and live Christian music. Proyecto Bienestar will also participate in *A Call to Action Community Forum* on Thursday, September 19. This forum, targeted to corporate businesses, industries and health care providers, will serve to provide education on the need for addiction treatment and ongoing care for people in recovery.

Recovery Consultants of Atlanta (RCA)

RCA will host a recovery conference, entitled, *Join the Voices of Recovery: A Call to Action* on Thursday, September 12 and Friday, September 13 at the Loudermilk Center in

Atlanta. A highlight of the conference will be a Town Hall Meeting, featuring speakers William White, Stacia Murphy and H. Westley Clark.

SpeakOUT; LGBT Voices for Recovery

On Friday evening, September 13, SpeakOUT will host *An Evening of Recovery, Reflection and Community Wellness: Remembering the Events of September 11, 2001*, in coordination with a group called NYC Recovers that was formed after the events of September 11, 2001. The event will feature music by the NYC Recovery Choir, as well as peer-to-peer support, wellness activities and community discussions.

Syracuse Recovery Community Service Program

Throughout the month of September, the Syracuse RCSP will conduct a radio and television media blitz to create a visibility around recovery. They have scheduled *The Vision of Hope Luncheon* on Friday, September 6, which will include proclamations of September as Recovery Month by both the Mayor of Syracuse and the Onondaga County Executive, testimonials by three SRCSP members and a keynote address. Plans are also underway for a Recovery Walk (culminating with a picnic), a “Clean Up Your Rap Sheet Day” and a recognition ceremony to acknowledge treatment providers with the highest retention rate.

TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)/Winner’s Circle

TASC’s Restoring Citizenship project will conduct a Winner’s Circle Retreat on Saturday, September 28 for individuals in recovery, their families and their friends. Called *A Celebration of Recovery*, this all-day special event will include motivational speakers, inspirational stories of recovery from Winner’s Circle members, lots of good food and live entertainment. The Honorable Danny K. Davis has been invited to speak as the Guest of Honor.

White Bison

White Bison is advancing the Wellbriety movement with the *Third Annual Circles of Recovery Conference: Strengthening Our Communities*, held in Billings, Montana from September 26-29. In addition, Firestarter programs in several locations are planning Recovery Month events:

- ❑ The Quechan Trip in Yuma, Arizona has planned 18 different events, throughout the month, including a walk, a run, a picnic, a conference, a dance, a talking circle, separate events honoring fathers, women, elders and youth, a family night and much, much more.
- ❑ The Ernie Turner Center will host a *Recovery Potlatch*, entitled “Alaska Sings Together,” on Saturday, September 14, to share tradition, food, dance and song in a Native cultural gathering in Anchorage, AK.
- ❑ United Sioux Tribes are sponsoring a Youth Run for Recovery, a Community Forum on Recovery and a *Recovery POW WOW* on Saturday, September 28 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
- ❑ Firestarter Group I is hosting a *Recovery POW WOW* in Billings, Montana on Saturday, September 28.

- ❑ The NARA group in Portland, Oregon will also be hosting a *Recovery POW WOW* on Saturday, September 14.

1998 GRANTEES

Association of Persons Affected by Addiction (APAA)

APAA is planning *Recovery in the Park* on Saturday, September 21 at White Rock Lake in Dallas. Among the planned activities are recovery speakers, games, sack races, dancing, music and events for the entire family. APAA has been one of the Planning Partners appointed by CSAT for Recovery Month.

California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, Inc/CAADPE

CAADPE will sponsor two one-day conferences, both entitled "Mobilizing Consumer and Provider Collaborations: Advocacy, Partnerships, and Policy" to address strengthening recovery community participation in policy making in order to build stronger and more effective public health policies, procedures, and interventions. The dates of the conferences are Saturday, September 21, 2002 in San Francisco, CA and Wednesday, September 25, 2002 in Los Angeles, CA

Missouri Recovery Network

The various MRN chapters have been busy planning Recovery Month activities:

- ❑ Throughout the month of September, the Warrensburg MRN Chapter will conduct drug-alcohol workshops for incoming freshman and transfer students at Central Missouri State University.
- ❑ The Joplin MRN Chapter will host a combined awareness/fundraising event at the Women's Consumer Council. Autumn "leaves" will be available for purchase and can be placed on a commemorative Honor Tree.
- ❑ MRN is a co-sponsor of the Committed Caring Faith Community Annual Conference, taking place in Kansas City from Tuesday, September 3 through Thursday, September 5. The conference will bring together members of the faith community to with recovery community members to discuss ways to collaborate.
- ❑ On Saturday, September 21, both the St. Louis MRN Chapter and the Jefferson City MRN Chapter will be hosting a *Recovery Walk*, to take place in each of the regions.

Project Vox (Michigan)

On Saturday, September 14, Project Vox will host a statewide *Celebrating Recovery II*, including a community picnic with entertainment, games, an open mike for recovery speakers and a recovery walk to the State Capitol Building for a rally. Susan Rook, formerly of CCN and a person in recovery, will be the Keynote Speaker.

Recovery Communities United

Recovery Communities United will be participating in a Recovery Month Kickoff at the State of Illinois Building in the heart of Chicago on Wednesday, September 4. The

organization will also be cosponsoring a Recovery Olympics with the Illinois Association of Extended Care on Saturday, September 14. On Friday, September 20 it will be sponsoring a recovery community dance, open to people in recovery and their dates, partners, friends and families.

STAR Project, Wisconsin

STAR is sponsoring Recovery Rally 2002: A Call to Action at the West Wing of the State Capitol in Madison on Saturday, September 28 for people in recovery, families, friends and allies. Featured speakers include Susan Rook, former CNN News anchor and recovery advocate and Tom and Mary Anne Farley, brother and mother of deceased comic, Chris Farley. Free entertainment will be provided.