

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

From the Academy of Peer Services

Virtual Community News Digest

March 17, 2017

A news digest of the Academy of Peer Services Virtual Community

<https://virtualcommunityblog.wordpress.com/>

Welcome to the first issue of Virtual Community News, a “digest” of reminders for upcoming events and news items of interest to the peer support workforce.

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Academy of Peer Services (APS) Term 1 ends in two weeks Friday, March 31

Reminder: If you are enrolled in courses in the Academy of Peer Services, Term 1 2017 will close in two weeks on Friday, March 31st at 5 pm. Please complete your course work and posttests before then. Thank you, APS Technical Team

Deadline Today (March 17, 2017)

ALTERNATIVES CONFERENCE 2017 **Call for Proposals**. For more, visit:

<https://www.power2u.org/alternatives-2017/call-for-presentations.htm>

Events Next Week (Week of March 20, 2017)

----- Statewide -----

New York State Office of Mental Health Regional Advisory Committee (Statewide Virtual Meeting)

Tuesday, March 21 | 9 AM - 12:30 PM
(Morning session only)

This Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting is to replace the meeting from February 13th canceled due to bad weather across the state. To attend from your own device, register via WebEx:

<https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/onstage/g.php?MTID=e571af8f107f594ca2f92e733d64b536c>

Agenda

9:00- Updates from Central Office
Presentation on Jobzone and Careerzone
Question and Answer

Click for more information on [Jobzone](#) and [Careerzone](#)

----- New York City -----

NAMI NY Metro Presents Gina Calhoun and two events

Tuesday, March 21 | 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM (WRAP Workshop)

Tuesday, March 21 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Panel Discussion)

[Visit the NAMI NY Metro website to register](#)

----- National Webinar -----

BRSS TACS Recovery LIVE Webinar Making the Case: Communicating the Value of Peer Support Services

Thursday, March 23, 2017 | 2:00–3:00 p.m. ET

[Visit the BRSS TACS website to register](#)

Save the Date! (Coming Soon)

----- National Webinar -----

**Peer Specialist Webinar Series:
Community Inclusion and Peer Support
Supporting Increased Community Participation**

With Matthew Federici of the Copeland Center

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 | 2:00–3:00 p.m. ET
(60 minutes)

[Visit the Doors to Wellbeing Technical Assistance Center to register](#)

----- New York State Office of Mental Health -----

Online Discussion (Webinar): Maintaining “Peerness” While Working

Hosted by Tony Trahan (Deputy Director, Office of Consumer Affairs)

Friday, March 31, 2017 | 2:00–4:00 p.m. EST (2 hours)

This is an online discussion about maintaining one's peer values, perspective, and identity while working with people who are mostly non-peers. Please be prepared to use your phone to ask questions. We will do this in a talk radio type of format. People will use the "raise hand" function and we will unmute your line and call out your name. This will not be an anonymous event.

Link to join:

<https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/onstage/g.php?MTID=e79abf5fe9350efae1eebd167ab49ef84>

Event number: 647 471 704 | Event password: nysomh123

Audio conference information

Provide your number when you join the event to receive a call back.

Alternative to call back: You can call one of the following numbers:

Local: 1-518-549-0500

Toll Free: 1-844-633-8697

Toll Free: 1-866-776-3553

If you use one of the alternate numbers, follow the instructions that you hear on the phone.

Mark Your Calendar (Future Events to Plan For)

----- New York City -----

July 13, 2017
New York City Peer Specialist Conference
(registration coming soon)

----- Statewide (unless otherwise specified) -----

OMH Recipient Advisory Council (RAC) Meetings (video conference)

- [March 21, 2017 - video conference](#)
- May 22, 2017 - video conference
- July 31-Aug. 1, 2017 - in-person
- Nov. 13, 2017 - video conference

----- Buffalo -----

April 28, 2017 (Buffalo Psychiatric Center)
8 AM – 4 PM

[Healthy Alternatives through Healing Arts \(HAHA\) Conference](#)

New

Online Resource



[RECORDING: Best Practices for Effectively Integrating Peer Staff into the Workforce](#)

(Broadcast in Feb. 2017)

with John Allen, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, NYS OMH

New Job Listing

Westchester, New York

[Peer Bridger \(Part-Time\)](#)

Mental Health Empowerment Project (MHEP)

(Posted 3/17/17)

Visit the Virtual Community [Job Bank](#) for the latest job openings

Participate in a Research Study!

---- University of Pennsylvania ----

We are seeking people to complete a short survey for a research project investigating how people learn and use a program called WRAP to pursue recovery. This survey is part of a project to help us understand how to make WRAP more helpful and more accessible to more people. For this survey, we are looking for people who meet the following criteria:

- Adults (at least 18-years-old)
- Graduated from WRAP programming within the past 6 months to 2 years
- Have experienced a serious mental illness

The survey will take approximately 20-25 minutes to complete. It begins by gathering some basic demographic information and then asks questions about WRAP, recovery, symptoms, self-reflection, problem-solving, and social support. Participation in this research project is completely voluntary. Once you complete the survey, you may choose to enter your contact details so that a \$10 gift card to Target can be mailed to you.

To complete the survey, please click on the link below:

https://upenn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cORpTb8JRleT8BD

Thank you for your time and interest! You may also forward this email to anyone you think might be interested in taking this survey. If you have any questions about the survey, please feel free to contact one of the researchers involved in this project: Ryan Petros at petrosr@sp2.upenn.edu.

Thank you!

This is the first in a series of announcements of upcoming events/job openings to post on the Virtual Community, a project of the Academy of Peer Services.

If you have events or opportunities to share for a future issue of this news digest, send email to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com.

Visit the Academy Virtual Community

<https://virtualcommunityblog.wordpress.com/>