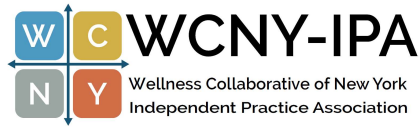


Joseph Swinford, Executive Director

1

Two years ago, peer-run organizations deemed by OMH to be “genuinely peer run” came together to develop an innovative partnership that would:

- *Develop, nurture and support collaboration and share strengths;*
- *Expand the availability of peer support services statewide;*
- *Increase the quality of peer support services throughout NYS;*
- *Increase favorable outcomes of the practice of peer support.*



2

Today the WCNY-IPA is....

- ▶ A unique, statewide Independent Practice Association that acts as a single contractor and point of collaboration and accountability for genuine, geographically diverse, peer- run organizations and programs.
- ▶ Offers peer support programs assistance to meet or exceed SAMHSA's national best practice benchmarks based on definitions, standards, practices, fidelity and service models.



3

WCNY-IPA MISSION STATEMENT*

The mission of WCNY-IPA is to eliminate the disparities and marginalization of care in NYS communities through the development and implementation of best practices of peer support that are innovative, peer run, holistic, and trauma informed.

**This mission will likely broaden to services beyond Peer Support*



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Membership

- Membership in WCNY – IPA is open to agencies who are
 - Committed to the provision or peer to peer services
 - qualified to do business in the State of New York;
 - have as one of its primary purposes the provision of medical, behavioral, and/or other health or social services for residents of the State of New York;
 - not be excluded from the Medicare and/or Medicaid programs;
 - possess the appropriate licenses, permits, registrations and other authorizations for its operations, as applicable;
 - financially solvent and not engaged in fraudulent activities, financial improprieties, or been convicted of a crime; and
 - agree in writing to be a party to, and to be bound by the By-laws, and any code of conduct or ethics or other procedures as adopted by the Corporation

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Our Partners:



Mental Health PEER Connection



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Our Affiliates:



7

The WCNY-IPA Offers Peer Support Services in 40 of the 62 counties in NYS.



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Replicable Service Models

Transitional Services

- A peer support service provided by a Certified Peer Specialist that is designed to support the transition into community life for individuals being discharged from mental health facilities, forensic facilities, or homelessness. The purpose of this service is to significantly decrease the need for readmission by offering an array of both intensive individual and group peer support services before, during and after transition.

Peer Crisis Diversion (Peer Support Line, Respite House, ER Diversion)

- A peer support service provided by a Certified Peer Specialist that is designed to assist individuals to de-escalate in the midst of a crisis, identify critical personal supports and linkages that may be helpful in the midst of a crisis and develop wellness self-management tools.

Wellness Coaching

- A peer support service provided by a Certified Peer Specialist that is designed to provide strategies and resources to address all aspects of an individual's mental and physical health. This service facilitates sustainable behavior change by assisting an individual to identify desired change and use unique skills, strengths, and resources to reach achievable goals through effective action.

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Services to WCNY-IPA Members

- Contracts to provide peer support services**
- Work force development tools**
 - Job Descriptions
 - Peer Specialist Practice Guidelines
 - Peer Support Outcome Measures & Evaluation Tools
 - PSNY-IPA's Peer Support Code of Ethics
- Collaborative Program Reviews**
 - SAMHSA'S Peer Support Services Evaluation Toolkit
- Peer Support Training**
 - Intentional Peer Support, Trauma Informed Approaches, Cultural Humility, etc.
- Peer Specialist Certification Requirements**
- Peer Support Service Models**
- Infrastructure Development**
 - Corporate Compliance Specialist
 - Qualified Health Care Professional (for Medicaid Billing)
 - Standardized Policies and Procedures



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Developments to Date

- Development of 3 primary product lines
- Development of Centers for Excellence Program
- Quantified certified staff at all locations
- Developed marketing materials and website
- IPA staff connecting with staff at member program staff
- Created and adopted:
 - Code of Ethics and Professional Standards
 - Conflict of Interest Policy and Questionnaire
 - Corporate Compliance Plan
- Incorporated as of October 2018
- Offered FACIT and Alternatives to Suicide Trainings to IPA Members



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Developments to Date(cont.)

- Elected New Officers at Annual Meeting
- Created Audit-Finance Committee
- Established Regular Communications/Meeting Schedule
 - Bi-weekly Executive Committee Calls
 - Monthly Teleconferences
 - Annual Membership Meeting
 - Quarterly Face-to-Face Partner Meetings
- Meeting with MCO representatives to discuss service contracts



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