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National Alcohol
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Recovery North

SAMHSA

Road to Recovery Month

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

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Welcome 2010 Partners!

By Wilmarie Hernández

As the summer heats up and we prepare for the *Recovery Month* observance in September, more organizations are deciding to be part of the efforts to land the benefits of treatment and recovery by becoming *Recovery Month* Planning Partners. This year more than 20 new organizations have joined the group.

In this issue, we are pleased to introduce three of our new members: Renew Media, LLC; The Providence Center; and Stepping Stone of San Diego.

Welcome Renew Media!

Renew Media publishes Renew Magazine and RenewEveryDay.com.

These tools support those in recovery and provide information on how to sustain recovery. Editorial director Kelly O'Rourke Johns, says the magazine "strongly believe educating the public will not only reduce instances of substance abuse, but also help shatter the stigmas associated with

addiction and recovery."

This is the main reason why Renew Media joined the *Recovery Month* Planning Partners. "*Recovery Month*'s local and national events allows for those in recovery to own the message. The greater the involvement of those in recovery the more impact we'll have," Kelly added.

Through its articles, *Renew Magazine* encourages those in recovery to live a positive, healthy and sustainable life featuring all aspects of life, from nutrition and exercise to spiritual health and hobbies.

They also use their soon to be launched website. RenewEveryDay.com, to offer information as well as opportunities for those in recovery to interact with others. "The online environment is excellent medium for open conversation on topics that were formerly difficult to broach. We hope that it will be a website that people will want to access daily to check in and renew," Kelly said.

Besides these tools, Renew Media has future plans for a Renew Foundation with a mission to fund treatment for individuals who could not otherwise afford specialized care.

On September 1, *Renew Magazine* will host a launch in tandem with *Recovery Month* in which they hope to underscore the Partnership's message.

For more information visit: <u>http://www.RenewEveryD</u> <u>ay.com</u>

Welcome The Providence Center!

The Providence Center (TPC), located Providence, Rhode Island, provides comprehensive treatment and supportive services within community setting to adults, adolescents and affected children psychiatric illnesses, emotional problems and

addictions. Serving more than 10,000 people annually in Rhode Island, the Center's staff includes wide range specialized behavioral health care professionals, from psychiatrists and dependency chemical treatment professionals to special education teachers, who apply a personcentered, recoveryoriented approach treatment.

At TPC, all the programs are designed to support people as they move beyond treatment and back into their communities. For this reason, TPC has adopted a Recovery-Oriented System of Care that keeps people engaged in their own recovery.

TPC is in the process of

launching Rhode Island's first Recovery Community Center, a place where people in all stages of recovery support each other through a wide variety of services provided by people in recovery in a centralized location. Mr. James Clinical Gillen, Coordinator of Recovery Services and a licensed dependency chemical professional, says, "It's important that the voices individuals experience of addiction recovery--including family members and the community--are heard and respected. At our Recovery Community Center, people in recovery will find the support needed to sustain their recovery and improve their lives." TPC has also begun the process of creating a Recovery High School, a safe, sober environment where teens in recovery learn to maintain recovery while succeeding academically.

Since being selected to speak at last year's National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month press conference, Gillen has been eager to be a planning partner for Month. Recovery "Collaborating with other states and with other organizations in Rhode Island allows us to get the message out to even more people that recovery is possible," Gillen mentioned.

This year, TPC will sponsor the state-wide "Rally for Recovery" event on Saturday, September 11. This event will attract over 2,000 people in recovery, advocates, families, providers and other supporters of recovery.

For more information visit: http://providencecenter.org and find TPC on Facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/

providencecenter

Welcome Stepping Stone of San Diego, Inc.!

Stone Stepping was founded in 1976 as a nonprofit alcohol and drug recovery agency offering a variety of social model programs recovery incorporating the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. They have about 10 different including programs residential and nonprograms. residential Their mission is to create, improve deliver and

treatment, health interventions, recovery, education, and prevention services specializing in the challenges of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities of the San Diego region.

John de Miranda, Ed.M., President and CEO, says that their "communities need more recovery treatment programs, especially for the LGBT individuals with addictions since they are a much marginalized population."

John has been involved with Faces & Voices of Recovery as a member of the Board of Directors. He has written articles on treatment and recovery and funding proposals for substance recovery community support programs. He also provides training and teaches regularly.

He was involved with the National Association of Alcohol, Drugs Disabilities when he first Recovery became a Month Planning Partners. John believes Recovery Month tool kits and Road to Recovery Television Radio and Series are very helpful to educate people about treatment and recovery. De Miranda was invited to participate in the August Road to Recovery Television and Radio Series program "Embracing Diversity: Crossing **Barriers** Deliver **Treatment** Everyone" as a panelist and the expert of the month.

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Stepping Stone is known for having an active voice in the community. On July 16, Stepping Stone hosted a Sober Dance during the Pride Parade where LGBT people in recovery had the opportunity to celebrate in a sober environment.

Among their events each year they host a Pancake Breakfast to bring sponsors and celebrate the graduation for those who participate in the program.

In Stepping Stone they believe collaboration and

partnership is very important. That is why each year Stepping Stone works together with the Alano Club, a California non-profit organization, supporting each other in fundraising activities.

Stepping Stone also collaborates with "A New PATH: Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing" in their fund raising event, which includes a fashion show called "Strut for Sobriety". This year, the event will take place on Saturday September 25.

On September 19, from 11 am to 1 pm, Stepping Stone and other partners will host a *Recovery Month* event, a Rally for Recovery at the San Diego County Administration Building that will feature speakers and recovery materials for the community.

For more information visit: http://www.steppingstones d.org

Spotlight: Faces & Voices of Recovery

With the mission to change public perceptions about recovery, to promote effective public policy, and to demonstrate that recovery is a reality, Faces & Voices of Recovery has been part of the *Recovery Month* Planning Partners for almost a decade. Since founded at a national summit in St. Paul, Minnesota in 2001, this organization represents the over 20 million Americans in long-term recovery.

Pat Taylor, Executive Director, says, their "job is to get the word out that there is help, that people can and do recover and that together, we can change discriminatory public policies that are a barrier to people getting their lives back on track."

Faces & Voices of Recovery works with people in recovery and recovery community organizations around the country to carry out programs and campaigns that put a face and a voice on recovery as part of public policy making, elections and educational town hall meetings. They developed a training called *Our Stories Have Power* to educate the general public and policymakers about the reality of recovery.

Faces & Voices of Recovery carries a non-partisan civic engagement campaign called Recovery Voices Count, where recovery community organizations register voters and educate candidates and voters about issues that are important to the recovery community.

In the past years, they have launched *Rally for Recovery!* in New Jersey, St. Louis and New York as part of National *Recovery Month* events. This year they are partnering with PRO-ACT in Philadelphia, PA for their national hub event on September 25th. Pat says their goal is over 100,000 participants in over 60 walks, rallies and other events as part of *Recovery Month's Rally for Recovery!* Taylor notes: "It's amazing the many ways that people come together during September to educate, advocate and celebrate recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs!"

Among their successes are the passage of the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act in 2008 and the inclusion of care for addiction in national health reform this year. Faces & Voices of Recovery also launched an online Guide to Mutual Support Resources where people can find mutual aid support groups and service providers. In addition they released the first "Recovery Bill of Rights," used in campaigns to empower people seeking to get the help they need They have worked with allied organizations to host the first-ever Recovery Wellness Rooms at the Democratic and National Conventions in 2008 as part of Recovery Voices Count campaign. Faces & Voices of Recovery also supports programs like SAMHSA's Recovery Community Services Program, and most recently, they have been working with the Office of National Drug Control Policy and hosted a Recovery Roundtable with them on July 1st on peer recovery support services and health care reform.

For Pat, one of her favorite parts as a *Recovery Month* Planning Partner is to have the opportunity to meet with partners face-to-face at meetings. "One of the most memorable anecdotes is last year's *Recovery Month* luncheon here in Washington, D.C. It was sponsored by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) and was the 20th anniversary of *Recovery Month* and held in the historic Willard Hotel, where Presidents have stayed and Civil War soldiers were nursed. Pretty amazing to be sitting there listening to speakers like Congressman Mary Bono Mack (R-CA) talking about recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs," she commented.

Faces & Voices of Recovery has great educational materials for the recovery community and the general public such as *Advocacy with Anonymity* brochure they publish with the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence and Join Together and two video trainings: the *Science of Addiction and Recovery* and *Our Stories Have Power*. Both of these trainings are now available on DVD.

To find out more about Faces & Voices of Recovery, their materials and events visit their web site: http://www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

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Editor's Column



As we approach another *Recovery Month* season this coming September, it is most appropriate

to focus on what makes *Recovery Month* possible. First, the support received by the SAMHSA Administrator and Senior members of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) who in one way or another continue to provide guidance and leadership so the resources are available to continue this important part of SAMHSA's work. One

particular person among them, Dr. H. Westley Clark, should be singled out since it is from the Center's budget that the observance gets its roots.

Second, and no less important is the unwavering energy and commitment that we get from all of the *Recovery Month* Planning Partners. You are the salt of the observance and without your dedication and support we would not be able to do what we do at SAMHSA. Your attention to the many details entailed in reviewing the kit and the other materials is the one reason why we have been so successful.

Third, the Consumer Affairs team and other CSAT colleagues who in

one way or another work tirelessly to continue to produce the excellent materials used to develop the *Recovery Month* events and activities and all auxiliary materials and programs.

I hope you enjoy the profiles we have included and the feature about Faces and Voices of Recovery!

Peace,

Juette Torres

Associate Director for Consumer Affairs Center for Substance Abuse Treatment SAMHSA

2010 EVENTS

The Providence Center 09/11/10

Event:

Rally for Recovery

Contact:

http://www.facebook.com/providen cecenter ---------

Stepping Stone of San Diego 09/19/10

Event:

Rally for Recovery

Contact:

http://www.steppingstonesd.org

Faces & Voices of Recovery and PRO-ACT in Philadelphia, PA 07/24/10

Event:

Recovery Month's Rally for Recovery

Contact:

http://www.facesandvoicesofrecove ry.org

First Federal Bank, New Millinuum Minitries, Nationwide Insurance 08/28/10 Event:

North Carolina Voices for Recovery/Ride for Recovery

Contact: russellsherman640@gmail.com

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Rebekah's House 08/28/10

Event:

Picnic 20-10

Contact: rebekahshouse@aol.com

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Visit us on the web: http://www.recoverymonth.gov

