



Show Taping 7/15/13 at 9 a.m. *Supporting National Recovery Month*

Show Topic:

Peer Recovery Support: Leveraging Personal Experience in Helping Others

Host: Ivette A. Torres, Associate Director for Consumer Affairs, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Invited Panelists:

Leah Harris, M.A., Communications and Development Coordinator, National Empowerment Center; Tom Hill, Director of Programs, Faces & Voices of Recovery; Michael D. Little, Advanced Certified Peer Specialist, Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health, Intellectual disAbilities Services; Monica Scott, Outreach Substance Abuse Counselor, Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems, Inc.

Program Abstract:

Peer recovery support in behavioral health is a powerful and essential component of the recovery process. More recently, however, the recognition of the importance of peer support has led to more structured and intentional applications of this recovery support approach. For example, many peer “recovery support specialists” and “recovery coaches” have received training on the most effective ways to help peers in recovery. Use of trained individuals along with other strategies for providing peer support is found in both mental health and substance use settings. Peer support is especially effective within certain groups such as military service members and veterans, young adults, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender populations. In some applications, online technologies are used to facilitate peer support processes. This show will also address the use of peer support in recovery community centers and recovery living settings.

Key Questions:

- What is the definition of peer recovery support?
- What types of support do peers provide to persons in recovery?
- At what points in the treatment and recovery process are peer support services best applied to help persons with mental and substance use disorders?
- In what organizational settings are peer recovery support services commonly being implemented?
- What training is appropriate for individuals who want to provide peer recovery support?
- What is the extent of need for peer support among military service members and veterans?
- What initiatives are underway to promote and encourage peer support for individuals with criminal justice center involvement?

Taping Location:

ICF Studio

530 Gaither Road, 5th Floor, Rockville, MD 20850

Contact: Jessica Fonoroff, 301-407-6559

Panelists should be at the studio by 9 a.m. for pretaping instructions, sound checks, and staging.

Show Air Date: September 4, 2013

Event will be archived online at <http://www.recoverymonth.gov>.