

#RecoveryMonth #Recovery The Outreach Vision Fall 2022

Recovery Month Issue PRESIDENT'S CORNER Jelcome to the Fall 2022 edition of the Outreach Vision Newsletter

President's dedicated to Recovery. We take this opportunity to celebrate Recovery Month and also to acknowledge New York statewide Overdose Message Awareness Days, September 14th and 15th. September is set aside as a time where we recognize and applaud those we serve, for the advances they have made.

key.

Just as we celebrate health improvements made by those who are managing other health conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, asthma, and heart disease, this observance reinforces the positive message of behavioral health. Harm reduction, prevention, treatment and recovery interventions are effective, and people can and do recover. This year's theme, "Recovery is for Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community," reminds people in recovery, and those of us who support them, that recovery belongs to all of us. We are called to embrace addiction as a disease whereby folks can manage and recover from their substance abuse addiction. As we embrace the addiction continuum of services, we lower the barriers to recovery through the support system, creating inclusive spaces and programs, and broadening our understanding of what recovery means for people with different

experiences. Oftentimes, individuals who experience a mental health or substance use disorder feel isolated and alone; yet, every year, millions of Americans experience these conditions. It's important that we offer support to individuals facing mental health and substance use disorders. In fact, let us work to create environments and relationships that promote acceptance. Too many people are still unaware that harm reduction, prevention, and treatment works and that mental health and substance use disorders can be treated, just like other health

**DEBBIE PANTIN** President/CFO problems. It is important for family members to have the tools to start conversations about harm reduction, prevention, treatment, and recovery; We know that family support is essential for recovery. Having dedicated the bulk of my professional career to the behavioral health field, I have witnessed the positive reality of recovery, and because of this, I am extremely honored to serve on the NYS Opioid Settlement Advisory Board. My service on this board helps me to provide guidance and recommendations on how to best allocate funds from NYS Opioid

available. With the support of a welcoming community, individuals in need of recovery will do better, both physically and emotionally. Families and communities can find hope and spread the message that recovery works by celebrating and honoring individuals and families who are in recovery. Support of the recovery community, including those who provide prevention, treatment, harm reduction and recovery support services is critical. I urge all community members to join the celebration and help stem the incidence of mental health and substance use disorders. Outreach is proud to offer a variety of options to assist individuals on their journey to recovery. In June, we broke ground on our new 25- bed young adult residence in Brentwood, LI. This facility will combine a supportive living environment with unique services for young adults affected by addiction to help them re-establish healthy living, reunite with their family and begin living their new substance-free lives. OUTREACH

trials to reduce harm, prevent and treat substance use disorders, and to sustain Recovery. The interplay of the above, along with racial and gender inequities, and integrated care models (i.e. mental and primary care) is also

Mental health and substance use disorders affect people of all ethnicities, ages, genders, geographic regions, and socioeconomic levels, so we need to encourage more people to see that recovery is possible and help is

I am proud to announce that our continued partnership with the Brower Family now includes a generous donation of \$30,000 toward naming a room in honor of their son, John Brower, Jr. at our new young adult residence. On September 10th, we will host, along with the Browers, the 7th Annual John Brower Jr. Foundation - Heroes Against Heroin 5K Walk at Jones Beach State Park. The Brower Family has turned their tragedy into advocacy and has generously given of their time, talent and treasure to prevent other families from experiencing the painful loss that they have. Finally, while we celebrate Recovery throughout the month and recognize the statewide Overdose Awareness Days on September 14th and 15th, we realize that this is a continuous battle that is sometimes fought for many years, but we celebrate each step, each moment, each day with those on the journey! Enjoy this issue and make sure you Like, Follow and Subscribe to stay up to date on all of our current events! In Solidarity, President/CEO **Outreach Development Corporation** 

OUTREACH

Outreach Breaks New Ground

for Young Adults

member along with Assemblyman Keith Brown.

On Friday, June 3, 2022, Outreach officially broke ground on our new 25-bed young adult residence in Brentwood Long Island. Scheduled to open in late 2023, this latest addition to our residential treatment options will provide a much-needed safe haven to young adults, ages 18-25, seeking to re-establish healthy living and reunite with their families, while simultaneously focusing on the life skills needed to prevent relapse.

Joining us in the celebration was the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports

supporters of recovery. Client Denys shared his heartfelt story of hope and recovery since coming to

Outreach and served as inspiration for those who will be served at the new facility.

(OASAS) Dr. Chinazo Cunningham and Assemblyman Keith Brown, both of whom are staunch advocates and

**Long Island Business** 

& Recovery Services

On June 23, 2022, Outreach hosted our 28th

annual Long Island fundraising luncheon "New

life-saving treatment programs on Long Island for

teenagers, young adults, women with children,

and anyone with an addiction issue.

Leaders Raise \$200,000

for Outreach's Treatment

Outreach executive team with OASAS Commissioner Chinazo Cunningham, OPI and ODC board chairs and



Debra Pantin, Outreach president and CEO, with Luncheon Chair and Outreach Development board member. Brian Edwards. Voices of Recovery

Statements from the Outreach Womens' Recovery Center



Kimberly C.

"This collage illustrates the strength it takes to

recognize the need for recovery and to attempt

sobriety. I am surrounded by strong women who empower me to stay sober and inspire me to

try every single day."

Stephanie Re.

Outreach Receives New York State Grant

To Integrate Treatment Programs

lonely I wanted to die. No friends and no family that

would talk to me. Now my world has opened and I have real friends. Meetings and groups opened up an entirely new host of acquaintances and good friends who counsel and comfort me.

Family: My family is the most important part of my recovery. Without them I would not have recovered and really changed. I have a great

relationship with my brothers, mother and

daughters. My son overdosed last year and his

death gave me the courage to start again and transform myself."

Laura H.

individuals to receive medical and substance use disorder services all in one place, offering a combination of supervised medication, such as methadone, along with counseling to promote recovery. Outreach was one of 14 treatment providers in NYS to receive such a grant. These programs are a new initiative designed to address the ongoing and growing need throughout the state for access to comprehensive treatment options. Funding for these grants was provided through the federal Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Block Grant and is being administered by OASAS. Outreach extends its heartfelt gratitude to NYS Governor Kathy Hochul and OASAS Commissioner Dr. Chinazo Cunningham for recognizing the importance of integrating methadone services to ensure New Yorkers have more options and better health outcomes. Outreach is hiring! Named one of the best companies to work for in NYS for 10 years in a row,

Outreach offers signing bonuses for new hires, generous compensation,

medical, dental and vision benefits, time-off, professional development and

tuition reimbursement.

Join our team! To learn more:

Visit us today at opiny.org/careers

ADDiction Doesn't Discominate

**LGBTQIA** – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,

are statistically at higher risk for substance use

are roughly 18% more likely to have alcohol

and 5.9% more likely to misuse prescription

medications.

disorder development than those who identify as heterosexual. Gay, lesbian, and bisexual individuals

addiction, 20% more likely to have drug use disorder,

Intersex, Queer and/or Questioning, Asexual and/or Ally". It is estimated that 30% of LGBTQIA individuals suffer from some form of addiction, compared to 9% in the general population. Roughly 4% of Americans identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or other (LGB+), and

· Boardon Ethin

Rich, poor Black, White, Etc., Anyone could become an addict. At the End of the day All addicts have Something In Common, of that is their disease. Recovery is for anyone of Everyone, No matter age Social Status of Creed. Day by Day Tust for Today

The Power of Art in Treatment for Youth

Adolescents struggling with substance abuse and

co-occurring mental health disorders can rebuild

residential treatment programs, young people (12-18 years old) focus full-time on their recovery through intensive, on-site treatment designed especially for

their lives again with the help of Outreach's

them.

residential services program. At our dedicated

Studies have shown that creative and artistic expression has significantly improved health

outcomes and sustained recovery. In honor of

16 year old client Brandon E.

more effectively.

can be asexual."

people are allies."

gender identities and expressions."

**Against Heroin Walk** 

To learn more, please visit: johnbrowerjrfoundation.org

their sexual orientation and/or their gender identity."

National Recovery month, we put out a call to our young clients for art submissions. Here is artwork by

Artwork by Outreach House Resident, Brandon E.

LGBTQIA & Recovery

Outreach received a \$206,000 grant to enable the agency to develop a new Comprehensive Integrated Outpatient Treatment Program, which will include the provision of opioid Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT). This funding will also address barriers clients face throughout the Long Island region in accessing Medication-Assisted Treatment. The Comprehensive Integrated Outpatient Treatment Program will allow

"Bisexual – This term refers to someone who is sexually and/or emotionally attracted to more than one gender. It refers to someone who is attracted to two or more genders out of the many gender identities." "Transgender – Transgender is used to describe any person who has a gender identity (including nonbinary) that is different from the gender that they were assigned at birth." "Intersex – This term refers to people who naturally have biological traits, such as hormonal levels or genitalia that do not match what is typically identified as male or female. There are many different intersex variations. Being intersex is a naturally occurring trait in humans; it is not pathological. Being intersex is not linked to sexual orientation or gender identity; intersex people can have different sexual orientations and

"Queer - Queer is often used as an umbrella term referring to anyone who is not straight and not cisqender.

"Questioning – This term refers to someone who is not sure how they identify. Someone can be questioning

"Asexual – Often referred to as 'Ace', this is an umbrella term used for individuals who do not experience, or

romantic relationships, and those who are not. People of different sexual orientations and gender identities

"Ally - People who identify as cisgender and straight and believe in social and legal equality for LGBTIQ+

experience a low level, of sexual desire. This identity can include those who are interested in having

Krista Whitman LCSW-R, CASAC is Outreach's Vice President of Outpatient Services/ LGBTQ+ Coordinator

**Save the Date!** 

**Upcoming Events** 

Cisgender people are people whose gender identity and expression match the sex they were assigned at birth. Historically the term queer was used as a slur against LGBTQIA people, but in recent years it has been reclaimed by LGBTIQ communities. However, some LGBTIQA people still find the term offensive. Queer is also often used as a broad rejection of labels. In this context, this could be a rejection of any type of label,

It is important to keep in mind that there are multiple pathways to recovery and that each individual with

substance use disorder manages differently. Treatment programs should address the specialized needs of members of the LGBTQIA community for a more well-rounded and inclusive path to recovery. This would

include clinician sensitivity to the additional stigma/discrimination that such individuals may face in addition

to their substance use disorder and creating a truly person-centered approach to addressing their needs

preferred terminology that we can all use to be supportive and sensitive of our clients, friends and family:

In honor of National Recovery month, below are some further definitions to assist in education about

"Lesbian – This term refers to a woman who is sexually and/or emotionally attracted to other women."

"Gay – This term refers to a man who is sexually and/or emotionally attracted to other men."

but most often refers to a rejection of labels for gender and sexual orientation."

This information is completely borrowed from: <a href="https://outrightinternational.org">https://outrightinternational.org</a>

7th Annual John Brower Jr. Foundation Heroes

41st Annual Outreach Metropolitan Luncheon

December 8, 2022, 11:45 AM | Cipriani's 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, NYC

September 10, 2022, 9:00 AM | Jones Beach State Park, Wantagh, NY.

**ACCOLADES AND APPOINTMENTS** Opioid Settlement Board Welcomes Outreach CEO Debbie Pantin Our CEO Debbie Pantin has been appointed by NYS Governor Kathy Hochul to join the Opioid Settlement Board. The Board is responsible for helping distribute settlement money from opioid manufacturers and distributors for prevention, treatment, and recovery programs. **HLNY Award** On June 14th, Debbie Pantin received the 2022 HealthCare Leaders of NY (HLNY) Community Leadership Award. HLNY is the local, New York Metropolitan, chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), an international professional society of more than 40,000

healthcare executives. HLNY's mission is to

Senior Director of OTI to her new position. Under

professional development courses at OTI as well

as externally to other organizations, and over the years has trained thousands of providers in the

her leadership, OTI has provided CASAC and

best and most current practices of care for

Mary Brite, LCSW, CASAC

Mary has been promoted from Vice President of

substance abuse disorders.

continuing education of our members.

advance healthcare leadership and management excellence through professional enrichment and

This year's fundraising event is chaired by Daniel Kindbergh of Brookfield Properties and will honor Joseph

Azzopardi from Painters and Allied Workers Trade, District Council 9, Callie Haines from Brookfield Properties, and Joseph Whelan from the Real Estate Board of New York. Invitations to follow soon.

David Vizzini, BS, CASAC Liliane Drago, MA, CASAC Liliane has been promoted to Assistant Vice Dave was promoted to Assistant Vice President of Residential Services, having served the Outreach President of the Outreach Training Institute (OTI). community since 2000 and helped our residential Liliane, who began her journey with Outreach in 2012, has quickly moved from Director of OTI to services continue to grow and provide quality

care for those in need despite many unexpected

challenges along the way, most notably the

COVID pandemic.

Kelsey Silver, LMFT

Kelsey has been promoted to Assistant Vice

**ASAP-NYCB Welcomes** 

**New Board Leadership** 

Our Chief Strategy Officer Christal Montague was named the new Vice President for the Board of Directors of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State Certification Board

(ASAP-NYCB). Their mission is to strengthen health and human services outcomes and enhance the

recovery oriented skills and capacity of the

workforce.

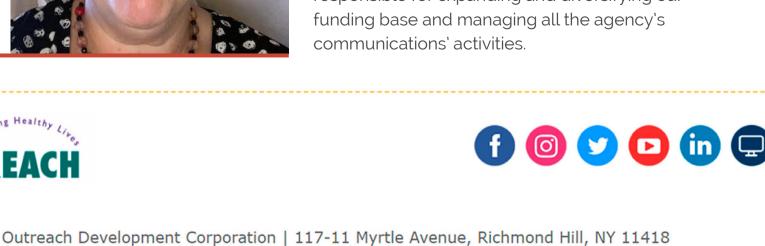
**Staff Promotions** 

Please also join us in congratulating staff on their recent promotions:

Residential Services to Chief Compliance Officer President of Quality and Data Analytics. Kelsey began her journey at Outreach over a decade ago as (CCO). Mary has been with Outreach for over 23 year. a Family Therapist. She then went on to use her Her career in human services began and evolved unique set of clinical and technological skills to exclusively at Outreach, beginning in a secretarial become our Electronic Health Records Coordinator, role and later transitioning to Director of Bellport, where she operationalized our new EHR system one of our most successful Outpatient programs. Avatar. Now, as we look towards the future and see Brite is currently the Co-Chair of the Women and Families Committee for the New York State Alcohol Outreach as a leader in quality and data analytics, and Substance Abuse Providers (ASAP) Association. we look forward to having Kelsey use her many talents to guide the way.







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