

Edition 19,
Fall 2014

MOAR
on Recovery Month



MOAR

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

News



SPEAK
UP

reach
out

2014

SPEAK
UP

REACH
OUT

National
Recovery Month
Prevention Works - Treatment is Effective - People Recover
SEPTEMBER 2014

Celebrate MOAR and Friends Recovery Month Celebration Day - Monday, September 22nd



Special Focus
on Opioid Epidemic
Tragedy to
Action Strategy
with Testimony from
Families in Recovery



In this Issue
Reach Out and Speak Up
Recovery Action Counts!

Celebrate Long Term Substance
Abuse Recovery Opportunities
Page 2

Testimony, Action, Opportunities
Page 2, 3, 4

9:00 AM Meet - Boston City Hall Plaza, Government Center

Hear - Teen Challenge Recovery Choir

Rally - Policymakers & You Speak Up for Recovery

9:45 AM March to Gardner Auditorium-The State House

10:15 AM Celebrate in Gardner Auditorium-The State House

12:30 PM Speak Up for Recovery with Chris Herren

The Great Hall with Refreshments and Resources

1:00 PM Tips and Trips to Meeting with Legislators

Grand Stair Case to Legislative Offices

1:30 PM Briefing with Rep Paul Heroux in House Members Lounge

"Recovery, Reducing Relapse, and Recidivism" *

3:00 PM Adjourn with Enthusiasm to Speak Up for Recovery

Join The Voices for Recovery; Speak Up & Reach Out with

Chris Herren – National Recovery Advocate, Paolo del Vecchio -SAMHSA CMHS Director,
Kathryn Power—SAMHSA Regional Director, Will Luzier– Council on Substance Abuse & Prevention,
Cheryl Bartlett- DPH Commissioner, Lydie Ultimo-BSAS Director,
Julia Ojeda— BSAS Recovery Services, Rita Nieves -BPHC, Iliana Rivera- Entre Familia,
Senator Joan Lovely & Rep. Liz Malia-Senate and House Mental Health and Substance Abuse Chairs,
Senator John Keenan, Senator Jennifer Flanagan, Rep. James O'Day,
House Speaker Robert De Leo, Woody Giessmann & Right Turn Residentials, Improbable Players,
Vic DiGravio & Connie Peters- Association for Behavioral Healthcare,
John McGahan & Bob Monahan- Recovery Homes Collaborative,
Haner Hernandez, Annie Parkinson—Recovery Advocates, Project ASSERT, Recovery High Schools,
Danielle Boland—Young People in Recovery, Jodie Nealley - MA Council Compulsive Gambling,
Joanne Peterson- Learn to Cope, Paul Kusiak– MOAR and Parent Advocate,
Allston/Brighton SA Task Force, Individuals and Families in Recovery!
Matt Ganem,- Recovery Poet, Recovery High School Students

*PM Briefing is supported by Cape Cod Center for Well-Being & Caron Treatment Center
MOAR Support from MA BSAS, MA Dept of Public Health – City of Boston, BPHC, SAMHSA, GBGA, Highpoint Treatment Center, and you!
All Recovery Month Sponsors will be highlighted at events throughout 2014– 2015

Reach
Out!

Speaking UP and Reaching Out!

Speak
Up!



Governor Deval Patrick Signing
"An Act to Increase Opportunities for
Long Term Substance Abuse Recovery"



7625 Massachusetts Residents Died from Opioid Related Overdoses 2002-2013

According to a Massachusetts Department of Health Report (April 2014)

- In March of 2014, Governor Deval Patrick declared the opioid crisis an epidemic. He authorized emergency measures reinforcing first responders carry narcan, and narcan be available by standing order prescriptions, and turn the voluntary prescription monitoring program into a mandatory one.
- Governor Patrick authorized an Opioid Task Force, of which **MOAR** and Friends participated. Simultaneous legislative and community forums took place across the state. The result: **An Act to Increase Opportunities for Long-term Substance abuse recovery** with full House and Senate support. Thank you to our legislators!

The Voices for Recovery "Reached Out" and "Spoke Up!"

- Persons in recovery and family members shared their experience about insurance providers denying treatment. In some cases, death was the tragic outcome. Thusabove law was signed in August 2014.
- So effective October 2015, Insurance companies will have to reimburse for the first 14 days of inpatient treatment without insurance authorization, and when the provider says it is medically necessary. (not the insurance company).
- Again effective October 2015, Licensed Alcohol and Drug Clinician I Services are to be insurance reimbursed.

"I am extremely proud to always work along side **MOAR** to speak out for quality prevention, treatment & recovery from the disease of addiction. We look forward to helping make sure the 2014 advances become a reality in October 2015

Together we can make **MOAR** of a difference! Let's end this epidemic and crush stigma together!"



Joanne Peterson,
Founder &
Executive Director
Learn to Cope

Learn to Cope (LTC) offers Narcan training for family members. The Opioid Task Force recommended more peer recovery support services. Thus, Learn to Cope will be expanding services across the state. In fact, Learn to Cope is a national family support network.



Paolo del Vecchio,
MSW,
Director of the
Substance Abuse
and Mental
Health Services
Administration
(SAMHSA)'s Center
for Mental
Health Services
(CMHS).

A self-identified mental health consumer, trauma survivor, and person in recovery from addictions, Paolo has been involved for over 40 years in behavioral health as a consumer, family member, provider, advocate.



Haner Hernandez



Chris Herren,
Recipient of the Faces
and Voices of Recovery
"Voice of Recovery
Award", Founder of The
Herren Project and
Project Purple

Chris struggled with alcohol and other drug problems for much of his basketball career, but now in recovery has courageously chosen to share his harrowing story of addiction to recovery with audiences far and wide in the hopes of reaching just one person and making a difference in their life.

My name is Haner Hernandez and I am a person in long-term recovery. I have not used any drugs, including alcohol since 1987. I am a productive family, community, and society Member. For 26 years I have been working in addictions prevention, intervention, treatment, recovery supports, and workforce development utilizing a framework of cultural competence and social justice. I joined the **MOAR** Board of Directors. **MOAR**

demonstrates a collective commitment to advocacy and public policy change promoting recovery I joined **MOAR** because no one should be working in isolation and **MOAR** is committed to the partnerships to make social change.

BMC Project ASSERT



Left to Right
Dan Heenan, LADC I
John Cromwell, LADC II
Emma Riley, LICSW, Manager
Moses Williams, LADC II
Ludy Young, M.Ed. LADC I,
Supervisor.
Leah Randolph, LADC I
Brent Stevenson, LADC II
Ed Bernstein, MD, Medical Director
Tom Connolly, M.Ed. (not pictured)

Over the past 20 years, Project ASSERT has served about 100,000 adult and adolescents patients and provided screening, brief intervention, and referrals to an array of community support and treatment resources that are individualized to our patient. They have changed the culture of the Emergency Department. Project ASSERT's motto is "unconditional service." They remain accessible to their patients throughout the day and night and make sure each individual feels well cared for and cared about. Recently, Project ASSERT has taken the lead to make substance treatment more accessible to LGBTQ patients and to provide overdose education and naloxone rescue kits to patients with opioid related ED visits in partnership with MA DPH/BPHC.

"Sharing my experiences living in sober houses was a significant contribution to the creation of the new Sober Housing Law. The lack of regulations on sober housing enables an environment that fuels relapse.

Being in long term recovery with a history of prescription and heroin addiction, I regard The Opportunities for The Long Term Substance Abuse Recovery Law as monumental. Lives can be saved by implementing this law."



Patrick Cronin, **MOAR** Program Coordinator

For me, long term recovery means the possibilities are endless as long as I remain substance free. I feel empowered to lead in the recovery movement. The more transparent I can be about my own struggles and recovery, the more others identify and begin to believe, "Maybe I can do this too".



Danielle Boland,
MA Young People in
Recovery, Real You Revolution
Recovery Coaching &
Intervention

Speaking anywhere and fighting the stigma and discrimination is and has been an uphill battle, but I refuse to give up because I know how many people out there need to be heard. I need to say that participating in **MOAR** has given me the inspiration for advocacy!



"Recovery Voices and Votes Count"
Register to Vote by October 14th to
Vote Tuesday, November 4th, 2014
For Our Next Governor

"Together, we're addressing stigma, denial, and ignorance! We're improving timely access to care and quality of care! With continued progress and accountability, more lives can be saved, families can heal, and communities can grow closer. I know because I am a Dad with personal family experience!"



Paul Kusiak, **MOAR** Board Member and
The Partnership for Drug-Free Kids – Parent,
Youth, and Family Advocate

**EVERY PERSON HAS TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL
AND THEY ARE LOVED.
TOGETHER, LET'S DO MOAR!"**

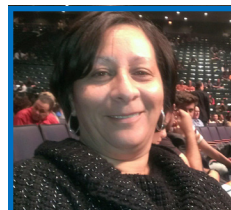
"MOAR and our allies achieved much in the past year. Together with public officials: Governor Patrick, the legislature, dedicated civil servants in the Department of Public Health and other state agencies, new policies exist to improve prevention, treatment delivery and access, recovery support, sober housing and expand the conversation about addiction.

Increasing awareness in employment settings, schools and colleges, families, and health and social service systems by delivering education about prevention, intervention, treatment and life beyond alcoholism and drug addiction fulfills the mission of **MOAR**. The deep concern born from the epidemic of heroin and other drugs (including alcohol) and the heartbreaking deaths which resulted will not be lost as **MOAR** continues to reach out with the recovering community providing ways to speak up. **MOAR** hope is promised as we continue to educate the public about the value of prevention, treatment and recovery."

Tom Delaney, **MOAR** Board President



**Join the Voices
for
Recovery**



Iliana Ojeda-Rivera is
Director of Women's
Services, at The Boston
Public Health Commission.
The services include
residential, day treatment,
and outpatient.

With many positive movements, I would like to shout out for supporting residential treatment, which offers structured recovery support for a life in the community. Specifically let me speak to families learning how to live in recovery. We need more support for family residential treatment.





MOAR mission is to organize recovering individuals, families and friends into a collective voice to educate the public about the value of recovery from alcohol and other addictions.

MOAR envisions a society where addiction is treated as a significant public health issue and recovery is recognized as valuable to our communities.

"Visible, Vocal, Valuable"

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MOAR Annual Holiday
Celebration
Tuesday, December 2, 5:30 PM
Mechanics Hall, Worcester



**Celebrating Recovery
Month**
Nominated ONDCP
Director Michael
Botticelli, SAMHSA's
Pam Hyde &
Boston Mayor



Some of Our Invited Guests

MOAR to Come

Chris Herren, SAMHSA's Paolo delVecchio &
Kathryn Power, DPH Commissioner Cheryl Bart-
lett, BPHC- Rita Nieves, House Speaker Robert
DeLeo, MHSA Chairs: Senator Joan Lovely &
Rep Elizabeth Malia, Rep James O'Day,
Senator Jennifer Flanagan,
Vic DiGravio-ABH, Matt Ganem: Recovery Poet,
Improbable Players, Woody Giessmann,
Joanne Peterson—Learn to Cope,
Haner Hernandez, Annie Parkinson

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Recovery Month Gratitude
To Leading Sponsors & You!



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