Moar Gratitude for the Gifts of Recovery this Thanksgiving!

**SAVE THE DATE!**
Click to RSVP on Facebook and see MOAR Info Below!

**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2016  
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM  
**Where:** Mechanics Hall  
321 Main St., Worcester

**11th Annual Membership & Holiday Celebration**

Recovery is Real!

My name is Jared Owen, and I am a man in recovery. For me this means that I have been abstinent from alcohol and other drugs for over three years. This allows be to be a responsible,
productive member of society and do MOAR for an organization that I love!

My substance use progressed from alcohol to prescription pills to IV heroin and amphetamines while I was studying to get my Ph.D at MIT. I used these drugs to cope with isolation, depression, and academic pressure. Ultimately, my addiction took everything from me, and I was incarcerated for 18 months.

I was released to intensive recovery home called the Meridian House in East Boston. I formed many positive relationships with staff and fellow residents there that I retain to this day. During the year I spent in treatment, I learned about recovery and developed the ability to cope with life without the use of alcohol and other drugs. Treatment truly saved my life. It was in the Meridian House that I felt that I found my 'tribe.' I want to make a difference by helping individuals from all walks of life that struggle with addiction. This includes working to end societal stigma, raising public awareness, working on policy issues, and educating the public about addiction and recovery. I believe that if it were not for the stigma and discrimination our society places on people with addictions, I may have sought help before I became so destructive. To this end, I regularly speak out about my addiction and recovery so that others may know that help is available and recovery is possible.

In February of 2016, I graduated from the Meridian House. I began volunteering for an incredible activism organization called MOAR. I was eventually hired as the full time Communications Coordinator. I am so grateful to work with such a compassionate and diverse group of people. Truly, my recovery would not have been possible without the help of some remarkable individuals including my dear friend and Meridian supporter Deb David (pictured above).

Local Leaders Join MOAR Members to Call for a Recovery Community Center in Middlesex County

In a special meeting of MOAR and Friends Middlesex East group, we were grateful to be joined by local leaders Mayor Gary Christenson of Malden, Police Chief David Fallon of Somerville, Malden Police Chief Kevin Molis, and others!

With an epidemic of opioid overdoses devastating our community, we will discuss pro-active approaches to help Middlesex residents achieve and maintain recovery. Local community members participated in a call to action to establish a Recovery Community Center in Middlesex County.

Thank you to all the local leaders and participants that came together to address this crucial issue. Stay tuned into MOAR as we work on this issue in the coming months.

The Restructuring of MassHealth and what it could mean for Addiction Treatment
MassHealth has recently received federal approval for a major restructuring plan (called an 1115 waiver) that will introduce accountable care organizations (ACOs) with community partners for behavioral health and long term services/supports. The implementation of the plan will begin in July of 2017. **A significant focus will be placed on improving integration and delivery of care for members with behavioral health needs and those with dual diagnoses of substance use disorder. In addition, MassHealth plans to expand treatment services for individuals affected by substance use disorder (SUD) and opioid addiction.**

Specifically, the project will introduce new federal funding so that MassHealth can cover SUD treatment such as TSS and Residential Rehabilitation Services that are currently funded by the state through BSAS. This additional federal money will be used to expand capacity (more beds) and improve services (better integration and case management.) **The proposal expands coverage to include recovery support services such as recovery coaching and possibly some Recovery Community Organization programs.** Controversially, the MassHealth proposal also incorporates the use of a standardized assessment tool from the American Society of Addiction Medicine across all providers to place individuals in the appropriate level of treatment.

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**LEARN WHAT MOAR THINKS ABOUT THE PLAN**

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**MOAR And SOAR-- Working on Issues of Housing and Transportation**

SOAR, Speaking Out for Addiction Recovery, is a project of MOAR which will connect Peer to Peer Organizations across the state. The purpose is to share crucial information and to unite the recovery community into a single voice. It also serves to mobilize people to regional, statewide and federal issues.

In eastern Massachusetts we have identified access to safe affordable housing for people in recovery as a major issue that we can leverage the resources of the SOAR network to improve. At our MOAR Boston meeting in November, we hosted Tina Giarla from MA Coalition on the Homeless. We learned about the RAFT program and how MOAR advocacy can help improve access to crucial housing support services. Check out upcoming MOAR meetings in Eastern MA to learn more about the housing issue and how you can help!

Especially in the Western and Southern Areas of this state, we have identified a lack of transportation resources as a major issue that hinders people in their recovery. We want your input! Please email maryanne@moar-recovery.org or attend one of our regional MOAR meetings to share your ideas about expanding access to transportation for people in recovery.

In addition, we are excited to welcome SOAR members to our annual Holiday Forum on December 8th. Billy "The Barber" Cabrera of Billy's Barber Shop will be sharing his story of hope and peer-to-peer recovery!

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MOAR
Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

11th Annual Membership & Holiday Celebration

Celebrate with “Visible Vocal Valuable” Community Action for Recovery
Let’s Have Holiday Fun in Recovery
Holiday Celebration Sponsors are MOAR Wanted!

Come out and Support Recovery
www.moar-recovery.org
No Fee - Contributions Accepted
Informal Buffet Served

MOAR
Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
29 Winter Street, 2nd. floor
Boston, MA 02108

Phone: 617-423-6627
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Email: michael@moar-recovery.org

RSVP
Contact MOAR at 617-423-6627
MOAR Thanks to Our 11th Annual Membership and Holiday Forum Sponsors

Keynote Speaker
Billy "The Barber" Cabrera Billy "The Barber" Cabrera offers more than a fresh haircut at his shop in Lowell. Beyond the barber chairs, in the back room of Billy's Barber Shop, Cabrera helps people with addictions, the homeless and people in transition. The Resource and Reclamation Center founded by Billy in the back of his shop demonstrates the power of peer-to-peer recovery community organizations. Billy also collaborates with the Lowell House and with the re-entry team at the Billerica House of Correction. Importantly, he shares his story of hope and recovery.

MOAR Thanks Our Generous Sponsors!

MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, MA Department of Public Health, contracted MOAR via Third Sector New England, to increase capacity as a statewide recovery community education and membership organization to build public awareness about the value of addiction recovery. It is the agency within the MA Department of Public Health, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, which is in charge of implementing and overseeing state funded addiction services. We especially thank Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Director, Jennifer Barmillle and Recovery Support Services Coordinator, Julie Ojeda for their strong support.

SAMHSA The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

MOAR received a SAMHSA CSAT RCSP – (Capacity for Substance Abuse Treatment, Recovery Community Support Project – Statewide Network), called SOAR, Speaking Out for Addiction Recovery.

AdCare Hospital is a New England name for helping individuals and their families overcome the disease of addiction. AdCare stands for Alcohol and Drug Care. For over 30 years, AdCare has committed itself to helping individuals and their families cope with addiction one life at a time. AdCare Hospital has been supportive of MOAR since our beginning. We especially thank President David Bills, Dr. Patricia Vachon-Valli, Vice President of Clinical Services, & James McKenna – A Very Special Projects Person, Georganna Reppon, Vice President of Marketing and Community Services. Mary Beth, Danny, Karen, Kristi, Susan and Kate are great community representatives!

Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership Established in 1996, the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership (MBHP) was contracted by MassHealth to manage the mental health and substance abuse services for Massachusetts Members. MBHP has improved the delivery and quality of healthcare in Massachusetts through Member directed initiatives, innovative programs for special needs populations, and effective collaborations with providers. MBHP has long supported MOAR with all our events.

The Boston Public Health Commission has been a long time friend to MOAR. For the last three years, BPHC has contracted MOAR to support the SAMHSA Target Capacity Peer to Peer – Safe and Sound grant to develop a recovery center named Safe and Sound! We are grateful to the entire staff!

The Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance and Worcester DPII have been very supportive of MOAR. We see central Massachusetts building a healthy continuum of care because of their services. We are very grateful!

The Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling is a private, non-profit health agency dedicated to reducing the social, financial, and emotional costs of a gambling disorder. Founded in 1983, the Council has been instrumental in bringing the issue of gambling disorder to the attention of the public and policymakers. Offering resources to people experiencing problems with gambling, their loved ones, and members of the community.

The Process Recovery Center understands that drug and alcohol addiction, coupled with possible mental health issues, are serious problems within our community, and society as a whole. The Process Recovery Center sets out to provide individualized treatment so all may have success in achieving long-term sobriety.

Solar & Kilcullen, PC was established in 1988 and provides accounting, tax, and advisory services to the Greater Worcester County area. For over 35 years, our experienced accountants have been helping New England businesses and individuals. Thank you Solar & Kilcullen!

Thank you to all MOAR Volunteer, Members, and Supporters!

Massachusetts SOAR, Speaking Out for Addiction Recovery, is a project of MOAR which will connect Peer to Peer Organizations across the state. The purpose is to share crucial information and to unite the recovery community into a single voice. It also serves to connect peer to regional, statewide and federal issues.

Thank You MOAR! The MOAR Board: President: Tom Dolaney, Vice President: Karen Harvey, Clerk: David O’Connor, Treasurer: Joe Kluthe, Board Members: Cheryl Friel, Andrea Larram, Father Joe White, Emma McArthur, Jeff Marcus, David O’Connor, Darcie Larram, Nanci Khamneud, Ken LaRue, Nancy Sarnelli.

MOAR Staff: Maryann Pezzutti, Executive Director, Kathleen Lohan, John Racine, Colleen Dwyer, Mark Bell, Mike Jarrett, Rick Kiley, Ken Keesey, Anna Fish, Joan DeRosa, Frank Luar

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Father Joe White is the Catholic Archdiocese Recovery Support Director. He is, also, the parish priest for St Joseph’s Church in Boston. Father Joe is a member of the Board of Directors at The Gavin House and MOAR. Father Joe is well known for his dedication to ministering to those in recovery.

Jennifer Barile is MA Department of Public Health (DPH) Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Acting Interim Director. Educated at UMass and the Massachusetts School of Law, Jennifer has a passion for policy and reform in the area of health and human services. She has worked as the Director of Policy for the Department of Public Health, and now brings her great expertise and motivation to BSAS.

Julia Cisse is the Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Recovery Support Services Coordinator. A graduate of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Julia brings a vast array of skills and experience to the field of recovery support services. In addition to many other initiatives, Julia has enhanced the development of peer recovery support centers, recovery coaches, inclusive of recovery coach supervision.

Representative Jim O’Day is the State Representative for the 14th Worcester/West Boylston District. He is a graduate of the Worcester Academy and Worcester State University. A social worker by profession, Representative O’Day demonstrates great compassion for all Massachusetts residents with major support for persons struggling with substance use disorders and wanting recovery.

Connie Peters is the Vice President of Substance Abuse Services at Association of Behavioral Healthcare of Massachusetts (ABH). She is a strong leader in the Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services, which has successfully moved to educate legislators about building a seamless continuum of care.

Matt Gammon is in long term recovery from heroin addiction. Matt is the Massachusetts Banyan Treatment Center Director. He uses the art of poetry to support others to recovery. In fact, a collection of his poems are found in his book, The Shadow of an Addict.

Doug Lomax is Director of Boston Public Health Commission’s Men’s Health and Recovery, a recovery program with supportive case management. With the support of a SAMHSA grant, he now directs The Safe and Sound Recovery Center. MOAR is happy to be a partner!

Cassandra Andersen is the Manager of Strategic Partnerships with the Worcester Department of Public Health. Her specialties include work with organizations, coalitions, and community members to support the growth of healthy communities using evidence based prevention programs and capacity building.

Jodie A. Nealley is The MA Council on Compulsive Gambling Intervention and Recovery Support Coordinator. Jodie previously worked in Higher Education and holds a MS in Education from Indiana University. She speaks from the heart of recovery.

Mattie Castiel, MD is Worcester City Commissioner of Health and Human Services. She is board-certified in Internal medicine, and has been medical director to a large municipal EMS system. With the support of The Latino Health Alliance, she is the force behind the Hector Reyes House, an addiction recovery home supportive of Latino men. She is also, the force behind Café Reyes, the caterer for our event!

Haner Hernandez is a MOAR Board member, in long term recovery with a remarkable story. Dr. Hernandez earned a Ph.D. at The School of Public Health and Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts. He is dedicated to paving the way for enhanced treatment and recovery services.

Margaret J. Hurley serves as the Chief of the Attorney General’s Central Massachusetts Division located in Worcester. In working with Attorney General Maura Healey’s office, she is helping to build improved awareness for addiction recovery, The Good Samaritan Law, prescription monitoring, and insurance coverage!

Erin Edgecomb works with the Parent/Professional Advocacy League (PPAL) the project coordinator for a grant called Promoting the Voices of Resiliency and Recovery. With this important collaborative effort, PPAL, MOAR and The Transformation Center are working to better integrate mental health and addiction recovery services in our state.

Andre’ Gaines of the Mipmuc Nation and The Worcester Inner Tribal Center is in touch with his Native American heritage that is a support to his recovery. He does the “Spoken Word” which reflects his spirituality.

Keith Anderson is in long term recovery, which means he has moved from struggles of living with drug addiction to a life in recovery. You will love his story!

And the Recovery High School!!!
Do MOAR! We have job openings.

MOAR is looking to hire two Regional Coordinators, an Administrative Assistant, and Recovery Coaches. Do MOAR by working for MOAR. Click for listings and apply today!