

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS IN ADDICTION RECOVERY  
(PIR) WITHIN RECOVERY-ORIENTED SYSTEMS OF CARE  
(ROSC)**

**A FOUR PART WEBINAR SERIES**

**#1 - SETTING THE STAGE**

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# Setting the Stage: Session 1

- Who qualifies as a Person in Addiction Recovery (PIR)
- What is a ROSC
- So what are the opportunities



# Who qualifies as a PIR



- Historically, the phrase **“I’m in recovery”** implied that a person was overcoming a drug and/or alcohol addiction and sustaining their recovery through 12-step support group attendance in programs such as AA or NA

# Recovery Definition Expanded

- Today the phrase “**recovery**” has expanded its meaning and now includes persons on medication assistance or drug replacement therapies such as: methadone; buprenorphine; naltrexone; etc.



# Recovery Definition Expanded cont'd



This expanded definition is also applicable to individuals who utilize religion to:

1. Achieve recovery
2. Sustain their recovery
3. Combine with traditional approaches
4. Sustain recovery post traditional methods

# Recovery Definition Expanded cont'd



## **This expanded definition also includes:**

- Gender-specific approaches such as
  - Women for Society
- LGBTQA - specific groups such as
  - Atlanta's Galano Club
- Culturally-specific approaches such as
  - Glide Memorial United Methodist Church (San Francisco)
  - Trinity House (Atlanta)

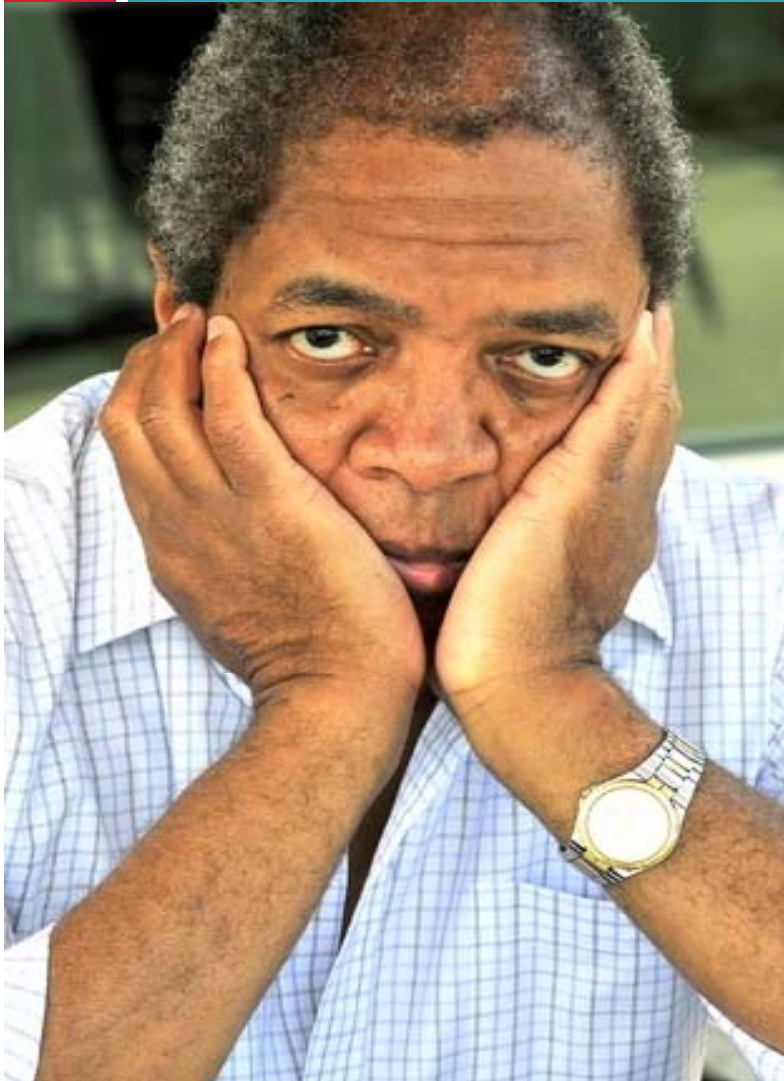
# Recovery Definition Expanded cont'd



This expanded definition is also applicable to harm reduction strategies such as:

- syringe access (aka, needle exchange)
- programs designed to reduce consumption and frequency (*smart recovery*)
- and non-religious methods such as **Rational Recovery**

# Recovery Definition Expanded cont'd



- This expanded definition is also inclusive of people overcoming mental illness
- CPS often times refer to themselves as being in recovery



# Recovery Definition Expanded cont'd



- **This presentation focuses on individuals recovering from substance use disorders; including co-occurring disorders.**
- **For this presentation,** the phrase “in recovery” does not include family members of PIR or individuals overcoming addictions to food, gambling, nicotine, cancer, or those recovering from mental illness . . . . though some or all of these ailments are included in the definition of recovery for many people.

## How might “12-steppers” view this expanded definition?



- The term “12-stepper” is used here to identify a person who solely or primarily utilizes programs such as AA or NA as their method of recovery
- Many 12-steppers believe that “complete abstinence” from all mind and mood-altering drugs, including alcohol, defines recovery

# 1 2-steppers **not** employed in treatment or recovery



- **May be** more challenged in accepting this expanded definition
- **Many** 1 2-steppers support an abstinence only approach to recovery
- **Some** may postulate that they have no opinion on what others think about their [definition of] recovery

# 12-steppers **employed** in treatment or recovery



- **May** appear more open-minded to “multiple approaches to addiction recovery”
- Including faith-based, medication assisted, gender-specific, culturally-specific, LGBTQA-specific, and harm reduction approaches

# Checking in...



Questions,  
Clarification,  
Short Comments so  
far?

# What is a Recovery Oriented System of Care?



A ROSC is a **coordinated network** of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to achieve **abstinence** and improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol and drug problems

SAMHSA/CSAT

# What is a ROSC cont'd



A ROSC refers to the complete network of **indigenous** and professional services and relationships that can support the long-term recovery of individuals and families and the creation of **values and policies** in the larger cultural and policy environment that are supportive of these recovery processes. The “system” in this phrase is not a federal, state, or local agency, but a macro-level organization of the larger cultural and community environment in which long-term recovery is nested

# In a ROSC



- **Addiction is treated as a chronic disorder**

...for over 200 years, we have known that addiction was a chronic disorder . . . however, it continues to be treated as an **acute disorder** . . . brief detox followed by brief treatment followed by brief or no aftercare

...high treatment drop out rates, rapid return to care, multiple treatment episodes

...resulting in extremely high poor outcomes for marginalized groups



# Values Underlying ROSC



- **Addiction viewed as a chronic disorder**
  - . . . offers assertive outreach and early engagement
  - . . . utilization of an integrated behavioral healthcare approach
  - . . . is absent of hierarchy among staff
  - . . . offers multiple approaches to recovery including peer-to-peer support
  - . . . provides ongoing care post initial engagement

# Values Underlying ROSC cont'd



- **Person-centered**

- ... places service recipient at the center of the services and supports offered

- ... recognizes that there are **many pathways** to recovery, including treatment, 12-step approaches, peer-based recovery support, faith-based recovery support, medication-assisted recovery, and others

- ... offers choice from among a **flexible menu of services and supports** designed to meet each **individual's specific needs**

**I got help with the kinds of things that were most important to me** – like getting my daughter back, and putting food on the table for her. Since they were willing to help me with what I needed, I figured, “Hey maybe I should listen to what they’ve been trying to tell me and try out that program they keep talking about.” Today I’ve been clean for nine months...

Davidson et al., 2008



# Values Underlying ROSC cont'd

- **ROSC is self-directed**  
... service recipients are **encouraged and assisted** in exercising the greatest level of **choice** and **responsibility** of which he or she is capable



# Values Underlying ROSC cont'd




## **Strength-based**

...ROSC identifies and builds on the assets, strengths, resources, and resiliencies of the **individual, family, and community**, rather than emphasizing needs, deficits, and pathologies



**Assertive Outreach,  
Engagement and Early  
Intervention**



*My clients don't hit bottom; they live on the bottom. If we wait for them to hit bottom, they will die. The obstacle to their engagement in treatment [recovery] is not an absence of pain; it is an absence of hope.*

(White and Woll)

# ROSC Values cont'd



- ROSC acknowledges the **role** family members, caregivers, significant others, friends, and community can play in the **recovery process**.
- Family members, caregivers, significant others, friends, and other allies are incorporated, whenever appropriate, in recovery planning and recovery support.
- Additionally, a ROSC recognizes that family members, caregivers, significant others, friends, and other allies may have their own needs for supports or services.



# Opportunities for PIR



- Late 90s – early 2000s – Recovery Community Support Programs (RCSP)
- 2002 – Recovery Community Services Program
- 2002 – Peer-based Recovery Support Services or PBRSS (peer-led, peer-driven or peer-to-peer services)

# Opportunities for Persons in Recovery within a ROSC



- Assertive Outreach
- Peer services within treatment centers
- Peer services within Recovery Community Organizations
- Peer services Drug Courts and other criminal justice settings

More will be revealed in next sessions!



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# Q & A portion of webinar

