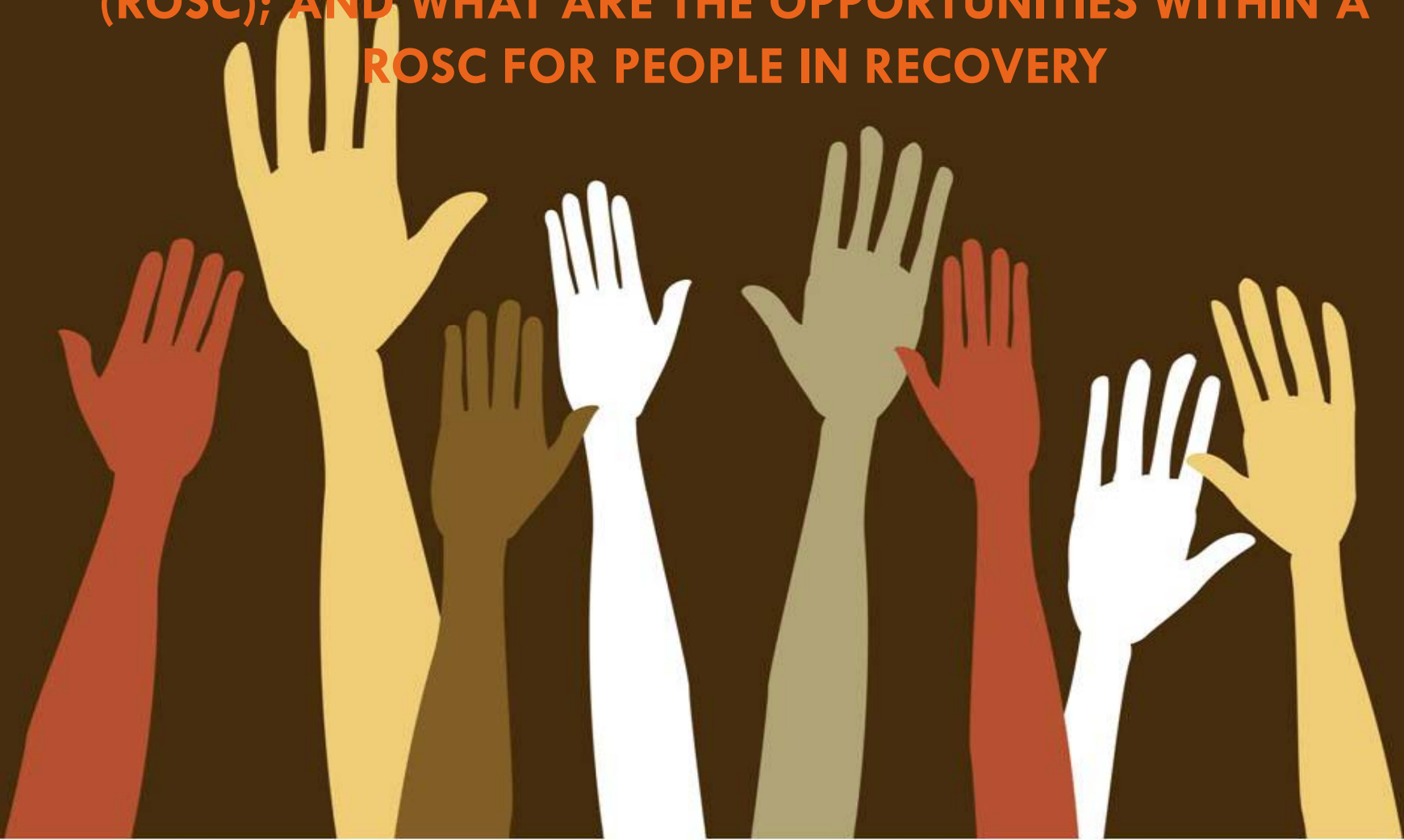


**SETTING THE STAGE: WHO IS A PERSON IN RECOVERY;
WHAT IS A RECOVERY-ORIENTED SYSTEMS OF CARE
(ROSC); AND WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN A
ROSC FOR PEOPLE IN RECOVERY**



David Njabulo Whiter, PhD, MSW, NCAC II
Consultant, Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center

Setting the Stage: Session 1

- Fundamental Principles of ROSC
- What we mean when we say, “People in Addiction Recovery” (PIR)
- The many-wonderful opportunities for PIR within ROSC



What is ROSC?



A ROSC is [recovery framework] or **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

Fundamental ROSC Principles



- **addiction is treated as a chronic disorder**
- **person-centered**
- **many pathways** to recovery, including treatment, 12-step approaches, peer-based recovery support, faith-based recovery support, medication-assisted recovery, and others
- offers a **flexible menu of services and supports** designed to meet each **individual's specific needs**


ROSC cont'd



- . . . offers assertive outreach and early engagement
- . . . utilizes 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



**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)

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



ROSC also utilizes People in Recovery as an integral component of its framework

...ROSC identifies and builds on the strengths of PIR whose lived experiences are invaluable in helping others achieve and sustain addiction recovery



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 cont'd



This expanded definition is also applicable to individuals who sustain their recovery through:

1. Religion
2. Gender
3. Sexual Orientation
4. Culture

How some “12-steppers” might 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

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, LGBT-specific, and harm reduction approaches

Checking in...



Questions,
Clarification,
Short Comments so
far?

Opportunities for Persons in Recovery within a ROSC

- Assertive Outreach
 - Pre-treatment, outreach, infectious disease education, prevention, testing, etc.
- Peer services within treatment centers
 - Recovery Coaches, peer specialist
- Developers and providers of P-BRSS within Recovery Community Organizations, Drug Courts, Criminal Justice and Welfare Systems, Publicly Funded Healthcare Facilities

Opportunities for Persons in Recovery within a ROSC

- PIR (abstinence-based and/or 12-step recovery)
 - Outreach workers, community-health workers
 - Prepared as canvassers of communities where substance users frequent
 - Greeters in treatment, mental health, and recovery centers
- Peer services within treatment centers
 - Recovery Coaches, peer specialist
- Developers and providers of P-BRSS within Recovery Community Organizations, Drug Courts, Criminal Justice and Welfare Systems, Publicly Funded Healthcare Facilities

Opportunities for Persons in Recovery within a ROSC



- Developers of Recovery Community Organizations
- Researchers within ROSC
- Trainers with ROSC

More will be revealed in next sessions!



Contact info

David Njabulo Whitters
dwhitters@comcast.net

(678) 592-9932

Q & A portion of webinar

