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Voices of Recovery Take Center Stage



David K. Mineta

Dear Friends,

In the short year we have published this newsletter, the impact the recovery community has had on policy and public awareness is significant. Voices of recovery are being heard in ways they were not in the past—and in places they were not formerly heard.

In this, the fourth issue of [ONDCP's](#) quarterly *Recovery Update*, we are pleased to report on Director Gil Kerlikowske's recent speech at the Betty Ford Center in California. He discussed the Obama Administration's new paradigm for drug policy and the key role recovery plays in it. Today, the recovery perspective has a growing influence not only in the United States, but also internationally. The United Kingdom's drug control strategy emphasizes recovery. Scotland has adopted the [Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care \(ROSC\)](#) framework, and recovery coaching services are being implemented across Scotland, Wales, England, and Australia. The ROSC framework has been adopted in Ghana and Tanzania, and both a [Recovery Federation](#) and [Recovery Academy](#) have been established in Great Britain. On September 15, 2012, [KeepSober.org](#) will provide [live webcasts](#) of the [Celebrate Recovery Walk and Rally](#) in Detroit, Michigan; [Recovery Walks!](#) in Hartford, Connecticut; and [Recovery Walk 2012](#) in Dublin, Ireland.

As always, I hope you find this update interesting and informative. Please forward it to others who might also be interested. We want to reach as many as possible – not only to share our message, but also to have the opportunity to learn from them.

Please email us at Recovery@ondcp.eop.gov with suggestions or questions. To receive future issues, email us at the above address with a request to be added to the *Recovery Update* subscriber list.

Sincerely,

David K. Mineta
Deputy Director, Office of Demand Reduction

News from the Recovery Branch

Director Kerlikowske Delivers Speech on Recovery

On June 11, 2012, [ONDCP Director R. Gil Kerlikowske](#) visited the [Betty Ford Center](#) in California to deliver a major speech on recovery. The speech was webcast live and is available for online viewing [here](#). Director



ONDCP Director Gil Kerlikowske speaking at the Betty Ford Center in June about recovery

Kerlikowske lauded the recovery community for its leadership, outlined the Obama Administration's new approach to drug

"Not so long ago, the word 'recovery' was absent from our vocabulary in Washington ... and when drug policy was developed inside the Beltway... [it]...was overlooked."

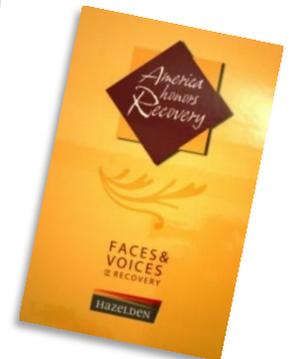
– Director Gil Kerlikowske

policy, and underscored the importance of listening to those in recovery and those who experience addiction and recovery first-hand. He also highlighted ONDCP's efforts to reduce misinformation, stigma, and fear, and to develop policies that effectively support recovery. Such policies include identifying and eliminating legal and regulatory barriers to recovery, expanding access to treatment and recovery support services, and fostering adoption of the

ROSC framework. ONDCP recovery priorities are detailed in the [National Drug Control Strategy](#).

Deputy Director Tucker Speaks at the 'America Honors Recovery' Awards Ceremony

Ben Tucker, ONDCP's Deputy Director for State, Local, and Tribal Affairs (SLTA), spoke recently at the 2012 "America Honors Recovery" awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. The event, co-sponsored by Faces & Voices of Recovery and the Hazelden Foundation's Center for Public Advocacy, was moderated by William Cope Moyers, who is in long-term recovery and serves as Executive Director of Hazelden's Center for Public Advocacy.



Mr. Tucker outlined the Obama Administration's focus on supporting long-term recovery and recognized people in recovery who have spoken out or committed themselves to helping others achieve and maintain recovery.



Ben Tucker, ONDCP Deputy Director for OSLTA, and Maryanne Frangules, recipient of the Joel Hernandez Award for advocacy

Attendees included recovery advocates, providers, elected officials, and persons in recovery from around the country. Featured guest Pat O'Brien, an Emmy-award winning reporter, sportscaster, anchor, and vocal member of

the recovery community, delivered entertaining and heart-warming remarks about the power of recovery. Several awards were presented to individuals and organizations to honor leadership in advocacy for and services to persons in recovery. A webcast of the ceremony provided by KeepSober.org is available [here](#).

ONDCP Expands and Restructures ROSC Learning Community

ONDCP significantly expanded and restructured the [Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care \(ROSC\)](#) Learning Community that it supports with help from the [Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center \(GLATTC\)](#) and [Dr. Ijeoma Achara](#). In June 2012, ONDCP opened the community to additional states, tribal organizations, and local communities, increasing membership from 6 jurisdictions to 16. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health



Ijeoma Achara

Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the [National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors \(NASADAD\)](#) also take part in the community.

To support the increased number of jurisdictions, the learning community is now organized into 6-month sessions, and participating jurisdictions are asked to establish measurable goals for each session. Content and activities are then tailored to meet those goals.

Among the guest experts who have agreed to present during the current sessions are [Arthur Evans, Ph.D.](#), [William L. White](#), and [Thomas A. Kirk, Ph.D.](#), retired commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services. For more information, please contact [Peter Gaumond](#) or [Nataki MacMurray](#) in ONDCP's Recovery Branch.

Training Institute on Collegiate Recovery Programs

ONDCP, in partnership with the Department of Education's [Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Violence Prevention](#) and [Texas Tech University](#), hosted a free training institute on starting or enhancing collegiate recovery programs August 2-3, 2012, in Washington, D.C. ONDCP Recovery Branch Chief Peter Gaumond opened the session, which was entitled *If You Build It, They Will Come: Building and Sustaining Effective Campus Recovery Programs*. Kitty S. Harris, Ph.D., Director of [Texas Tech University's Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery](#), served as lead trainer. Additional information is available [here](#).

Research and Data

What is recovery? – Study Seeks Input

[Dr. Lee Ann Kaskutas](#), a Senior Scientist at the [Alcohol Research Group](#) and Associate Adjunct Professor at the [University of California Berkeley School of Public Health](#), is leading a research project to learn how people who formerly had problems with alcohol or drugs define recovery. Funded through a grant from the [National Institutes of Health](#), the study gathers information via a website (<http://www.whatisrecovery.org/>) that includes a description of the study and a link to the survey. The site does not collect identifying information, so responses are confidential and anonymous. To be eligible, participants must be at least 18 years old and consider themselves to be in recovery or no longer with an alcohol or drug problem.



Lee Ann Kaskutas

Study Finds Recovery Support Reduces Recidivism

A study at the Richmond City Jail in Richmond, Virginia, found that participants in the Kingdom Life Ministries (KLM) peer recovery support services program had significantly lower criminal recidivism rates than either the jail population as a whole or participants in a separate Richmond City Jail program that provides peer recovery support services to individuals with alcohol problems. The separate program was thought to be less effective because it did not provide post-release housing. The KLM program was established in a violent tier of the Richmond City Jail by the [McShin Foundation](#) in February 2008. Previously, emergency room costs related to fights in that section averaged about \$20,000 per month. After the program was implemented, only minor scuffles were reported, none of which resulted in injuries requiring emergency services. Researchers found that the program saved an estimated \$7 million in incarceration costs and eliminated emergency room costs related to violence, saving an estimated \$840,000. The study was conducted by Dr. Sarah Huggins Scarbrough through [Virginia Commonwealth University](#). [A press conference](#), a [Richmond Times Dispatch article](#), and an [Associated Press story](#) provide additional information. Dr. Scarbrough can be reached at smh0205@hotmail.com.

Laudet and Harris Receive Grant to Study Collegiate Recovery Programs

The [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#) recently awarded a 2-year [developmental grant \(R21\)](#) to Alexandre Laudet, Ph.D., of [National Development and Research Institutes](#), and Kitty S.



Alexandre Laudet



Kitty S. Harris

Harris for a study to identify commonalities and differences across [collegiate recovery programs \(CRPs\)](#) and among the students they serve. The study will involve at least 29 CRPs and approximately 700 students. Its purpose is to gather information to design a

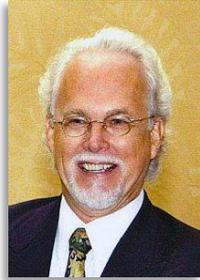
rigorous evaluation study that will be submitted to the [National Institutes of Health](#) for potential funding through the [R01 research grant funding mechanism](#). Ken Winters, Ph.D., of the [University of Minnesota](#), is serving as co-investigator and Paul Moberg, Ph.D., of the [University of Wisconsin](#), as a consultant.

New Review of Recovery/Remission Studies

SAMHSA's [Great Lakes Addiction Technology Center \(GLATTC\)](#) and the [Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services](#) recently engaged [William L. White](#), an addiction and recovery historian affiliated with [Lighthouse Institute](#), to conduct an analysis of research literature to answer key questions about substance use recovery in the United States.

In his report, [Recovery/Remission from Substance Use Disorders: An Analysis of Reported Outcomes in 415 Scientific Reports, 1868-2011](#),

White estimated that between 25 and 40 million American adults are in remission or recovery.



William L. White

Spotlight: Recovery in the Field

Virginia Law Creates Recovery Support Services Grant Fund

On July 23, Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell signed into law [House Bill 271 \(HB 271\)](#), creating a fund to finance recovery support services to be administered by the [Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Disabilities](#). The culmination of intensive and extended advocacy efforts by the recovery community in Virginia, the bill requires the Department to convene "representatives of community services boards, individuals receiving recovery support services, and private providers of recovery support services in the Commonwealth, to provide input regarding the development of the Substance Abuse Recovery Support Services Grant Program including criteria for (i) grant applications, (ii) uniform oversight of grant recipients, and (iii) evaluation of the effectiveness of services funded." It also calls for a report on the activities of the fund at the end of its first year of operation. Appropriations allocated to the fund will come from private grants, gifts, and donations.

Recovery High School Featured on Nightly News

[Northshore Recovery High School](#) and its founder, Michelle Lipinsky, were featured recently on the NBC Nightly News. The segment can be found [here](#). Northshore Recovery High, located in Beverly, Massachusetts, is a member of the [Association of Recovery Schools](#).

Innovation Center Grant Supports Peer Recovery Navigators

The [Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation](#) has awarded \$2.8 million over 3 years to [ValueOptions, Inc.](#), and its subsidiary, [Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership](#) to reduce repeated detox visits among Medicaid-eligible individuals. Peer patient navigators, recovery planning, and other support services will be offered through four provider organizations. By linking beneficiaries with appropriate treatment and recovery services, it is estimated the project will improve outcomes and save \$7.8 million by avoiding preventable emergency room visits and hospitalizations. Of 107 initial Innovation Center awards, this is the only one that focuses exclusively on substance use disorders. For more information, contact Tom Warburton: Tom.Warburton@valueoptions.com.

Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery

Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery™ (CCAR), a Hartford-based non-profit that works nationally to promote recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction, operates [three recovery community centers](#) and is widely known for its recovery coaching and telephone recovery support services and its online recovery housing network. Nationally, CCAR has trained more than 2,100 individuals through its intensive 5-day, 30-hour recovery coach training program. In 2011, volunteers enrolled 1,945 new "recoverees," made more than 35,000 calls, and had more than 8,200 conversations about recovery, remaining in contact with telephone recovery support participants for an average of 14 weeks.

A recent review of data for 483 individuals who had received calls for 12 weeks or longer found that 88 percent (425) reported remaining clean and sober throughout the time they were receiving calls. Of those who reported relapsing, 72 percent later reported they were back in recovery, and many cited telephone recovery support calls as a major reason. For more information, contact Cheryle Pacapelli, CCAR's Director of Recovery Services, at 860-218-9553 or cheryle@ccar.us.

Collegiate Recovery Program Recognized

The American College Health Association recently honored the University of Texas at Austin's [Center for Students in Recovery](#) (CSR) with the Best Practices in College Health Award for 2012. CSR offers students overcoming addiction to alcohol or other drugs a pathway to sustained recovery and academic achievement.

Coming Up

- [NAADAC National Conference – Leading the Way](#), August 12-15, Indianapolis, IN
- [2012 Rally for Recovery – Recovery Heals Families](#), Sept. 8, Denver, CO
- [Celebrate Recovery Walk & Rally \(Faces and Voices of Recovery National Hub Event\)](#), Sept. 15, Detroit, MI
- [Recovery Walks! 2012](#), Sept. 15, Hartford, CT
- [Recovery Walk 2012 - Ireland](#), Sept. 15, Dublin, Ireland
- [Recovery Walk 2012](#), Sept. 19, Brighton, UK
- [SMART Recovery Annual Conference](#), Sept. 21-23, Chicago, IL
- [Recovery Walks! Walk & Rally](#), Sept. 22, Philadelphia, PA
- [REEL Recovery Film Festival - New York City Edition](#), Sept. 28-Oct. 4, New York, NY
- [4th Annual UK Recovery Walk](#), Sept. 29, Brighton & Hove, England
- [National Conference on Addiction Disorders](#), Sept. 28-Oct. 2, Orlando, FL
- [International Recovery Coaching Conference 2012](#), Oct. 1-2, London, England
- [REEL Recovery Film Festival - Vancouver](#), Oct. 19-20, Vancouver, BC
- [California 2012 Unified Collegiate Recovery Conference](#), Oct. 20-21, University of California, Riverside, CA
- [Find a Recovery Month Event Near You!](#)