

Bridge to Recovery

SPIRITUAL AND FAITH RECOVERY SUPPORT

Faith Recovery Support Services for people with substance use issues are practical skills and supports for living fulfilling, substance-free, lives in their communities.

For a full list of current RSS services:
www.ct.gov/dmhas/ATR

This edition of the Access To Recovery Newsletter highlights

Faith Recovery Support Services (FRSS).

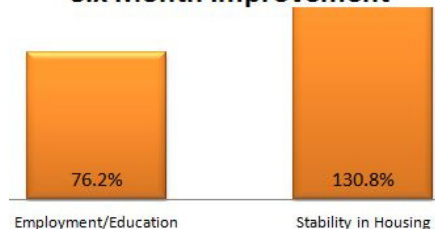
Faith Recovery Support Services are provided through individual and group meetings to help persons in recovery forge supportive connections with self-selected faith communities, discover positive personal interests, and take on valued social roles. These services include mentoring and positive role modeling, pastoral and spiritual counseling, social support and community engagement, and integration of faith and recovery values to support recovery and relapse prevention. Services are usually provided in a religious or spiritual setting by spiritual leaders or other staff who are knowledgeable about the spiritual values of the community and are equipped to assist individuals in finding spirituality.

Key Outcomes

Services provided by spiritual and faith providers include faith counseling (FRSS), case management (RMS) and sober housing (Supported Recovery Housing Services). Previous editions of the newsletter have detailed that SRHS and RMS are cost-effective interventions which often lead to successful outcomes for those within the substance use disorder system of care. Data on services provided by spiritual and faith-based agencies supports significant improvement in rates of social connections, a decrease in negative consequences related to illegal drug use, and an increase in stability related to housing and employment.

Connecticut Outcomes for Those Receiving Faith Recovery Support Services

Six Month Improvement



Data shows including Faith Recovery Support Services in individuals' recovery plans, especially when combined with other support services, results in notable improvement in key outcomes.

Spiritual and Faith Network

- Ten contracted faith-based providers who offer faith counseling, sober housing and case management support services.
- Nine certified contracted locations where clients can receive individual and/or group faith-based counseling (FRSS).
- Survey results shows that individuals who receive faith-based services are 'highly satisfied' with their services.



Raqeeb

"ATR services are like a springboard...they helped me get back to mainstream society in a healthy manner. Faith-based programs taught me to look inside myself...at the reasons why I started using."

With the help of ATR, Raqeeb is reunited with his family and is now actively facilitating faith based groups

<http://www.ct.gov/dmhas/atr>

The ABC's of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)

The Connecticut Access to Recovery IV (ATRIV) Program has worked with DMHAS staff and the Connecticut Certification Board (CCB) on a series of ongoing training to support our Recovery Support Service (RSS) providers related to Medication Assisted Treatment, which is the standard of care for individuals with opioid use disorders. ATR is promoting the acceptance of MAT by our provider community by providing a baseline that includes: understanding the basics of Opioid Use Disorders, defining MAT, identifying why medication may be necessary, and challenging the common myths associated with MAT.

MAT IS ONE OF MANY PATHWAYS TO RECOVERY. MAT HAS BEEN PROVEN TO;



National Opioid Crisis

From 2000 to 2015 nearly half a million persons in the US died from a drug overdose.

On average, two people die of accidental drug overdoses every day in CT.

723 overdose deaths in CT in 2016, more than twice the number three years ago.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Improve survival ■ Increase treatment retention ■ Decrease illicit opioid use ■ Decrease infectious diseases (Hepatitis, HIV) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Decrease criminal activity ■ Increase employment ■ Improve overall birth outcomes with new mothers living with addiction ■ Improves communities
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