

Faces & Voices of Recovery: Our History and Our Future

Dona Dmitrovic
Johnny Allem
Pat Taylor
March 17, 2011



www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

The Early Path To Organized Advocacy

- Marty Mann and alcoholism education, founded National Council on Alcoholism (NCA)
- Sen. Harold Hughes and the Hughes Act
- Bill Wilson's statement in testimony before Congress on the Hughes Act, *I can see the day when hundreds of AAs will fill the halls of Congress to demonstrate wellness and recovery.*



Context of the 1990s

- Cost transfer of treatment to the public sector
- The War on Drugs – criminalizing addiction in America
- Recovery Community Support Program



Efforts to Organize

- Society of Americans for Recovery (SOAR), Senator Harold Hughes, 1991-1994
- The Stepping Stones Accords, Phyllis Mulaney, October, 1993
- The National Forum, George Bloom, 1996-1999
- The Johnson Institute, William Cope Moyers, 1999-2001
- The Alliance Project, national organizations including Johnson Institute, Legal Action Center, National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), CADCA, National Association for Children of Alcoholics, 2000-2001



Voices Along The Way

The Society of Americans for Recovery is a grass-roots organization of concerned people from all walks of life. It is dedicated to the fundamental belief that alcoholic and drug-dependent people and their families should have the same rights and privileges as all other people.

It strives for a better understanding that treatment and recovery will reduce other health, social, and economic problems.

Please join us to champion hope, justice, and opportunity for all whose lives are damaged by diseases of alcoholism and drug dependence.



- Senator Harold Hughes, SOAR Founder and Chairman

Voices Along the Way: The Stepping Stones Accords



Principles In Common For THE NATIONAL FORUM.

Discovering Solutions to the Nation's Alcohol and Other Drug Problems

Alcohol and other drug addiction remains America's number one health problem and major tax burden, undermining the general health and welfare of its citizens and eroding its economy. A solution requires wide knowledge and broad acceptance of responsibility by every segment of society. To build such a focus, the National Forum participants commend these accords:

1. To fight for a comprehensive range of quality prevention, treatment, and recovery services for chemical dependency, a primary disease in the nation's healthcare system.
2. To incorporate cultural and age appropriate care for family members whether or not the addicted person is in treatment and/or recovery.
3. To acknowledge major advances in science and practice that ensures more effective approaches to treatments, prevention, and public policy and bring the possibility of recovery to more and more Americans.
4. To focus our message to the public, communicating pride in our accomplishments, acknowledging our limitations and instilling hope for science and practical solutions to addiction disease in the future.
5. To engage our organizations in the ongoing healthcare debate, committing resources and special skills in keeping with these accords.

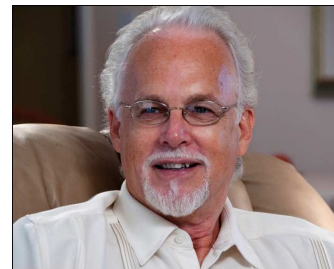
Faces & Voices of Recovery

- St. Paul Summit, 2001
- Survey of the Recovery Community by Peter D. Hart & Associates
- Core Positioning Statement
www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org/about/
All pathways to recovery
- Campaign with regional representatives instead of organization – The Trusteeship
- Incorporation and establishing Organized Advocacy, electing leadership, 501(c)(3), 2004



Message of Hope

“Many of us have carried a message of hope on a one-to-one basis; this new recovery movement calls upon us to carry that message of hope to whole communities and the whole culture. It is time we stepped forward to shape this history with our stories, our time and our talents.”



-William White
Author and
Recovery Advocate



Recovery Community



- Many pathways to recovery
- People in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, our family members, friends and allies



Governance and Resource Development

Governed by the recovery community

- 21-member board of directors
- Includes regional representation paralleling Addiction Technology Transfer Centers
- Annual board retreat

Growing diversity in funding streams

- Private foundations (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Open Society Foundation; Greater Cincinnati Health Foundation; NH Charitable Foundation)
- Government contracts (Center for Substance Abuse Treatment; National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- Corporate Donations (A&E; Reckitt-Benckiser; Alkermes)
- Individual donors (End-of-the-year appeal; America Honors Recovery; Combined Federal campaign)
- Sales (DVDs; books; buttons and bumper stickers)



**Organizing the
recovery
community:
Recovery
community
organizations**

Independent, non-profit organizations that are led and run by representatives of local communities of recovery on behalf of the recovery community:

- Public education: putting a face and a voice on recovery
- Advocacy
- Peer-based and other recovery support services



Organizing the recovery community: Recovery community organizations



Recovery Community Support Program (RCSP)

- In 2002 the RCSP switched from advocacy to peer services, becoming Recovery Community Services Program
- Grantees developed peer services that were distinguished from professional treatment and mutual aid supports
- In 2006 Faces & Voices waged campaign to restore federal funding for the RCSP Program; once again needed in 2011

Organizing the recovery community: Recovery community organizations

1) Mini-grants and technical assistance to recovery community organizations for:

- Recovery Voices Count
- HBO's Addiction

2) Rally for Recovery! organizing calls

3) "*What is a Recovery Community Organization?*" paper by Phil Valentine, Bill White, Pat Taylor

4) Joel Hernandez Voice of the Recovery Community Award

5) Work in NH, WI, MD, OR, TX, FL and MD

Looking ahead: American Association of Recovery Community Organizations



Organizing the recovery community: Recovery community organizations

Peer recovery support services in health reform

Recovery community organization accreditation

- Peer recovery coaches
- Life skill coaches
- Recovery Community Centers



**Organizing the
recovery
community:
Faces &
Voices
Summit and
representation
at other
Summits and
meetings**

2005: Faces & Voices Summit in
Washington, DC

CSAT-sponsored Recovery Summit
that articulated recovery-oriented
systems of care and highlighted peer
services

2010: ONDCP/SAMHSA-sponsored
Recovery Summit

2011: SAMHSA-sponsored recovery in
health reform summit



**Mobilizing the
recovery
community:**
THE
RECOVERY
BILL OF RIGHTS
FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

We will improve the lives of millions of Americans, their families and communities if we treat addiction to alcohol and other drugs as a public health crisis. To overcome this crisis, we must accord dignity to people with addiction and recognize that there is no one path to recovery.

- Statement of the principle that all Americans have a right to recover from addiction to alcohol and other drugs
- Empowering people seeking recovery and their family members to get the help they need



Building on 2006 Right to Addiction Recovery Platform

Mobilizing the recovery community:

THE
RECOVERY
BILL OF RIGHTS
FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

The Recovery Bill of Rights is a call to action for our elected officials and community leaders to break the cycle of addiction by empowering people who still need treatment and ending discriminatory policies that keep people in recovery from securing jobs and housing in order to create a healthy and just society
....break the silence and share the promise of recovery."

**- Former Congressman
Jim Ramstad (R-MN)**



Mobilizing the recovery community: Rally for Recovery!

RALLY FOR RECOVERY!
ONLINE FOR 2010

FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

CELEBRATING 10520 years of recovery

Recovery is everywhere. For too long we have been silent and invisible. This September, Rally for Recovery! online, and help us tally our total number of years of recovery. Together, we can put a face and a voice on recovery. You are living proof of the reality of long-term recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. Support and give hope to those still struggling by organizing and speaking out together. Join us!

RALLY Online | **ATTEND AN Event** | **RECOVERY VOICES Count**

We Recover!
I've been in recovery for: **Submit**

Take Action

- Sign up for our email newsletter
- Write your elected official

The Main Event
September 22, 2010 - Join PRO-ACT and A&S's Recovery Delegates at Penn's Landing in Philadelphia, PA

Live from your Rallies

JOIN THE VOICES FOR RECOVERY

RECOVERY BENEFITS EVERYONE

National Recovery Month

Building on Recovery Month observances – one day Advocacy Action Areas



Mobilizing the recovery community:



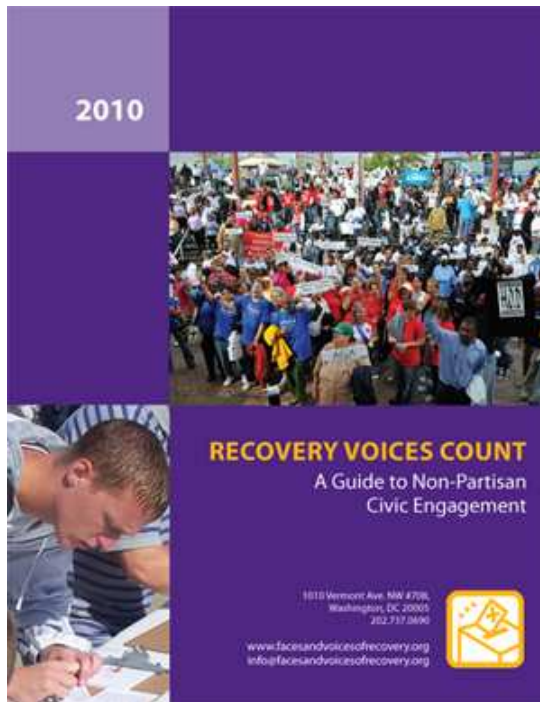
2010: 80,000 people
over 95 events
Philadelphia, PA hub

2009: 70,000 people
over 80 events
New York City, NY hub

2008: 40,000 people
over 60 events
St. Louis, MO hub

2007: 30,00 people
over 50 events
Liberty State Park, NJ hub





- ☑ Voter Registration
- ☑ Voter Education
- ☑ Voter Participation



Mobilizing the recovery community:



First campaign in 2006

Expanded in 2008:

- New Hampshire Presidential Town Hall Meeting
- Democratic and National Conventions
Recovery/Wellness rooms

A constituency of consequence



Trainings



“Train the Trainer” program about the science behind the reality of recovery; face book network of trainers. Produced DVD.



Our Stories Have Power
Recovery Community Messaging Training



Over 3,000 trained; conducted and released the first-ever survey of the general public, finding broad support for changes in attitudes and policies. Produced DVD with “Train the Trainer” materials.

Trainings and Forums

Webinars on peer recovery support services, recovery community centers, archived online.

Community Listening Forums – 2011

2006: Advocacy
with Anonymity
revised with
new messaging



Communications

facesandvoicesofrecovery.org



- One-stop recovery Web site with information for advocates, families, and people in recovery
 - Bi-monthly advocacy eNewsletter
- Social networking: facebook; IntheRooms
- Quarterly publication *Rising!* (2006-2008)
- Portrayal of people with addiction and people in recovery:
 - Organized media, letter writing and call-in campaign to VH1 to protest the portrayal of people with addiction on *"Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew"*
 - Organized media, letter writing campaign to A&E about *Intervention*
- Speaker's Bureau
- Placing individuals for media interviews

Advocacy



2006 - Partial repeal of the ban on Federal financial aid to students with prior drug convictions

2007 - Second Chance Act

2008 - Wellstone-Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (Parity) The Addiction Recovery Insurance Equity Campaign, working to end insurance discrimination against people with addiction, organized National Call-in Days; Capitol Hill rallies

2010 - Addiction coverage in Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Health Reform)

2011 - Benefits package to include peer and other recovery supports

Online Advocacy Action Center harnesses the power of the Web to keep recovery advocates informed and make activism easier than ever – 1500 emails/letters/calls about FY 2011 SAMHSA funding in March 2011

Congressional Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus



Strategic Partnerships

- A&E's The Recovery Project
- Mental health organizations: Recovery/wellness rooms at the National Conventions; Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act
- Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTCs)
- Office of National Drug Control Policy: Recovery Roundtable, Recovery Branch
- HBO: 15,000 people attended over 500 viewing parties for HBO's *"Addiction"* in March 2007 in project with Join Together and CADCA
- Addiction Prevention, Treatment and Recovery organizations: Oxford House, Legal Action Center, NASADAD, NAADAC, Partnership for Drug Free America, NCADD, CADCA, National Association for Children of Alcoholics, SAAS, American Society on Addiction Medicine, Therapeutic Communities of America and others



2010 National Drug Control Strategy

A new recovery perspective

- Support for and partnership with the over 20 million Americans in recovery from addiction
- Expansion of community-based recovery support programs including recovery schools, peer-led programs, mutual help groups and recovery support centers
- Review of laws and regulations that impede recovery from addiction in housing, employment, a driver's license, or student loans



Faces & Voices Vision

Individuals, families and communities affected by alcohol and other drugs have universal access to the support needed to achieve recovery, health, wellness and civic engagement.

Faces & Voices Mission

Faces & Voices of Recovery is dedicated to organizing and mobilizing the over 20 million Americans in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, our families, friends and allies into recovery community organizations and networks, to promote the right and resources to recover through advocacy, education and demonstrating the power and proof of long-term recovery.



Join Us!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Faces & Voices of Recovery website. At the top left is the logo "FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY" with a banner image of seven diverse people. To the right of the banner is the tagline "organizing the recovery community" and navigation links: "Join Us", "Send to a Friend", "Print", and "Contact Us". Below the banner is a search bar and a horizontal menu with "About Us", "Recovery Resources", "Publications", "Our Regions", and "Media Center".

ACTIVITIES

September 20, 2008

[Rally for Recovery! 2008](#)
Find a Rally for Recovery event in your community!

[Brooklyn Bridge Recovery Rally](#)
on September 27, 2008. Learn more!

[Recovery Advocacy Toolkit](#)
Get the tools and resources you need to work on recovery advocacy campaigns

[New book selected for online book club](#)
Read "Rescued Lives: The Oxford House Approach to Substance Abuse" and participate in the discussion!

WHAT'S NEW

The Recovery Bill of Rights


THE RECOVERY BILL OF RIGHTS
FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

The Recovery Bill of Rights is a statement of the principle that all Americans have a right to recover from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. [Learn more](#)

 Find us on Facebook

GET INVOLVED

- [Take Action Online](#)
- [Register to Vote](#)
- [Campaigns](#)
- [Book Club](#)
- [Advocate](#)



SPOTLIGHT



Victory is in sight on the Paul Wellstone and Pete

JOIN US!

in mobilizing and organizing the recovery community!



www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org