# Great Lakes MHTTC The Importance of Dual Recovery

Mark Sanders, LCSW, CADC Illinois State Program Manager, Great Lakes ATTC, MHTTC, and PTTC

#### Outline

- Historical milestones and the celebration of substance use disorders recovery
- Benefits of celebrating dual recovery
- Varieties of substance use disorders recovery
- Defining mental health recovery

#### **Outline Continued**

 How professionals can help clients define mental health recovery, maintain recovery, have a sense of purpose in recovery, celebrate dual recovery

### Happy Recovery Month!



Source: Flickr.com

# Recent Historical Events Which Led to the Celebration of Substance Use Disorders Recovery

- Crack cocaine crisis of the 1980 90's
- Increased stigma
- Closing of residential treatment facilities
- The criminalization of substance use disorders. From 400,000 in 1985 to 2.5 million in 2005

#### Recent Events Continued

- Child welfare involvement
- Methamphetamine crisis in rural America
- Meth lab raids
- Opioid crisis todays
- Faces and Voices of Recovery

# You are in recovery when you say you are in recovery! Let us celebrate!

### Substance use disorders and mental illness overlap at the rate of 50%.

SAMHSA

It is time to celebrate dual recovery!



#### Benefits of Celebrating Dual Recovery

- Can be a reminder of an integrated approach to recovery
- Reduces stigma
- Reduces shame
- Reduces blame

### Benefits of Celebrating Dual Recovery Continued

- Mobilization can lead to an advocacy movement
- Potential increase in Dual Disorders Mutual Aid Groups
- Inspiration to individuals in recovery, families and frontline mental health professionals

## Varieties of Substance Use Disorders Recovery

- Treatment Assisted
- Total Abstinence
- Peer Based Recovery
- Secular recovery
  - Women for sobriety
  - Smart recovery
- One drug at a time
- Dual Recovery

### Varieties of Substance Use Disorders Recovery Continued

- Moderation Management
- Medication Supported
- Quantum Change-over night, sudden transformation
- Religious Style
- Cultural Pathways
- Unaffiliation/unlabeled style

The challenges of defining mental health recovery. SAMHSA's definition could be a bridge.

### SAMHSA's Definition of Recovery

A process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.

#### Defining Mental Health Recovery

#### Self determined

- No longer having symptoms
- Managing mental health symptoms
- Regaining control of my life
- Living the life I want to live
- When my symptoms are less severe

### Defining Mental Health Recovery Continued

- When I can have meaningful relationships
- When I can work
- When I have hope
- When my life has meaning and purpose

### You Can Help Clients

- Define recovery
- Maintain recovery
- Identify purpose in recovery
- Celebrate dual recovery

### Helping People With Mental Illness and Co-occurring Disorders Define Recovery

Questions to ask

- 1. How do you define recovery?
- 2. What are the signs for you that you are in recovery?
- 3. How do you view dual recovery?
- 4. What are the signs for you of dual recovery?

#### Helping Clients Maintain Dual Recovery

#### The four essentials

- Stable housing
- Stable therapeutic relationship
- Meaningful daily activity
- A significant interpersonal relationship

### Helping Clients Maintain Dual Recovery Continued

- Supportive employment
- Intensive family engagement, and case management
- The use of peers

## Helping Clients Maintain Dual Recovery Continued

Increasing medication compliance

- Supportive employment
- Reduce stigma
- Match the client with a doctor they like
- Adult conversation with the medicating physician
- Psycho-education
- Client voice and choice
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Do a discontinuation of medication-hospitalization evaluation



## Helping Clients Identify Goals and Purpose in Recovery

Visualization exercises

## Helping Clients Identify Goals and Purpose in Recovery

#### **Socratic Questions**

- What are the reasons you survived all of that?
- What would give your life meaning in recovery?
- What is your previous life suffering preparing you to do with the rest of your life?

# Helping Clients Identify Goals and Purpose in Recovery

#### **SMART Goals**

- Specific
- Meaningful
- Achievable
- Realistic
- Time limited

#### **Personal Mission Statement**



#### The Life Plan Exercise

- Beyond the Treatment Plan
- Beyond the Prevention Plan
- Beyond the wellness Plan

#### Life Plan

- Unfinished business that you intend to complete
- Relationships you plan to nurture
- Life purpose/mission statement
- Happiness plan (living in the now)
- 10 things you want to learn
- 10 places you want to go
- 10 things you want to own
- How you would like to contribute
- How you would like to be remembered
- Who you want to become

### Celebrating Dual Recovery

### Thank you

# Mark Sanders, LCSW, CADC masanders5@wisc.edu