

## NEWSLETTER



**Q & A**

**WITH ANGELA PATTERSON,  
CPS-MH, FPM, WHWC**

Certified Peer Specialist-Mental Health and Whole Health Wellness Coach with the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network; Statewide Coordinator for Double Trouble in Recovery

### Q&A with Angela Patterson, CPS-MH, FPM, WHWC, Certified Peer Specialist-Mental Health and Whole Health Wellness Coach with the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network; Statewide Coordinator for Double Trouble in Recovery

*Your work through the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network (GMHCN) and National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Georgia touches on addiction recovery, mental health, wellness, and criminal justice involvement. Describe your personal journey that brought you to this work.*

My early life involved trauma, and that led to problems within my family and career and eventually to alcohol misuse. I was first incarcerated when I was 17. When I was a child, I wanted to find out what was “wrong” with me and fix it, then help others. After years of cycling through jails, crisis stabilization units, and chaos, I was finally correctly diagnosed 6 years ago and started receiving the proper medication, which has helped me to live a balanced life. Programs such as peer support through GMHCN and my connection early on with NAMI led me to understand that it’s never been about what’s wrong with me. It’s about what happened to me.

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### Institute for Community Justice Helps People Who Are Incarcerated Look Ahead

Empowerment, not enablement, is a mantra at Philadelphia’s Institute for Community Justice (ICJ), a comprehensive prison services and reentry program that provides health linkages, supportive services, education, and advocacy for individuals, families, and communities impacted by mass incarceration. As part of Philadelphia FIGHT—a comprehensive health services organization for people living with and at high risk of HIV/AIDS—ICJ focuses specifically on individuals involved in the justice system.

[Read More](#)

### Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) Supports Families of People Experiencing Substance Use Disorder and Incarceration

Many therapeutic approaches to substance use disorder (SUD) focus on teaching the individual to change their own behaviors and thinking patterns to help them stop using substances and maintain abstinence or safer use (e.g., cognitive behavioral therapy, relapse prevention therapy, and others). One approach, however, focuses specifically on the family members of the person using substances and how they can encourage their loved one to seek help and create an environment and relationship that supports recovery. This method, Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT), has proven to be highly effective at getting individuals who misuse substances into treatment and helping them maintain recovery.

[See Full Article](#)

### Homeless & Housing Resource Center Webinar Effective Behavioral Health Crisis Response

*February 23, 2023, 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET*

This webinar will explore strategies for reducing, mitigating, and responding to behavioral health emergencies involving individuals experiencing homelessness. The featured panelists will discuss cross-sector provider coordination and integration and best practices for effectively responding to crisis situations. They will also provide community examples of cross-sector coordination to improve health outcomes, and offer tangible approaches to ensuring comprehensive, culturally responsive services.

Training Objectives:

- Review the detrimental impacts of an ineffective crisis response system on individuals experiencing homelessness, BIPOC, and vulnerable communities
- Understand the role of 988, and the necessary components of an effective behavioral health crisis response system
- Identify opportunities and strategies for behavioral health crisis providers and homeless and housing service providers to more effectively partner

Speakers:

- **Jordan Gulley, LICSW**, Senior Associate, Technical Assistance Collaborative
- **Emily Miller, LICSW**, Senior Program Manager, DESC, Seattle, Washington
- **Eric Scott**, Peer Support Specialist, Community Response Team, Washington, DC
- **Cherene Caraco**, Founder, Chief Global Strategist & Executive Officer, Promise Resource Network, Charlotte, North Carolina

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### Notice of Funding Opportunities

#### [Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act Grants](#)

**Application Due Date: March 3, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to prevent and reduce alcohol use among youth and young adults ages 12-20 in communities throughout the United States. The program aims to: (1) address norms regarding alcohol use by youth, (2) reduce opportunities for underage drinking, (3) create changes in underage drinking enforcement efforts, (4) address penalties for underage use, and/or (5) reduce negative consequences associated with underage drinking (e.g., motor vehicle crashes, sexual assaults). In addition, applicants will build on strategic plans that were developed under a Drug Free Communities (DFC) award utilizing the strategic prevention framework model which aims to address underage drinking behaviors.

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** Up to \$3,000,000

**Anticipated Number of Awards:** 50

#### [Adult Reentry Program](#)

**Application Due Date: March 6, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and related recovery and reentry services to sentenced adults in the criminal justice system with a SUD and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, who are returning to their families and community following a period of incarceration in state and local facilities, including prisons, jails, or detention centers.

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** \$13,000,000

**Anticipated Number of Awards:** 33

#### [Emergency Department Alternatives to Opioids Program](#)

**Application Due Date: March 6, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to develop and implement alternatives to opioids for pain management in hospitals and emergency department (ED) settings and reduce the likelihood of future opioid misuse. This program also supports identification of, and intervention for, individuals presenting with opioid use disorder.

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** Up to \$6,800,000

**Anticipated Number of Awards:** 14

#### [Grants to Expand Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Adult and Family Treatment Drug Courts](#)

**Application Due Date: March 6, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery support services in existing drug courts. The program recognizes the need for treatment instead of incarceration for individuals with SUDs. These awards provide a continuum of care, including prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services, for individuals with SUD involved with the courts.

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** Up to \$32,400,000

**Anticipated Number of Awards:** 81

#### [Medication-Assisted Treatment – Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction](#)

**Application Due Date: March 7, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to provide resources to help expand and enhance access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD). It is expected that this program will help to 1) increase access to MOUD for individuals with opioid use disorder, including individuals from diverse racial, ethnic, sexual, and gender minority communities; and 2) decrease illicit opioid use and prescription opioid misuse.

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** Up to \$18,200,000

**Anticipated Number of Awards:** 24

### Flashback on a Treatment Court Judge’s Perspective



[Q&A with the Honorable Jeffrey R. Smith, Spokane County Health Therapeutic Court, Mental Health Therapeutic Court and DUI Therapeutic Court | November 2022](#)

[Q&A with Judge Robert Russett | September 2020](#)

[Q&A with Judge Craig Hannah | May 2020](#)