

## **Office of Recovery Strategic Plan**

Passaic County's Opioid advisory board approved the creation of the Office of Recovery in October 2022. The advisory board was established as per the state regulations to address the epidemic of Opioids and its effects on the residents of the County. The Office of Recovery is a wellness initiative, that serves as an auxiliary service offered by the Department of Human Services to benefit the constituency of Passaic County.

### **Vision:**

To facilitate appropriate educational and individualized services to Passaic County residents struggling with substance use, misuse, and co-occurring morbidities for a better quality of life.

### **Mission:**

To Provide Passaic County residents a seamless process to Support Health through Identification, Networking, and Education.

### **Office of Recovery:**

The Office of Recovery works towards identifying and reducing gaps in treatment and services and access to resources which at times ultimately become the reason why an individual does not receive services specific to their needs while struggling with opiate and opioid use. It forms a critical part of the County's collective impact project that partners with community-based organizations and gathers feedback from residents to bridge the gaps in the operations and the desired outcomes. The Office of Recovery is founded on the principles of S.H.I.N.E:

**Support:** The goal will be to prepare community members to be willing to engage in services and this will be done by preparing and praising individuals to seek assessment, education, and referral for identified needed services.

**Health:** The Office of Recovery will be supporting health through assessment, medical referral, housing, behavioral health, and vocational referral; monitoring and follow-up will be through case management.

**Identify:** Staffing will be directed and tasked to be available to the community and identify needs through the provision of behavioral health screenings, surveys and just listening to individuals reporting to outreach stations and other outreach methods.

**Network:** The Office of Recovery will use tact in referring consumers to appropriate and specific services. Through community-specific planning networking will be done with not only large institutions but also with small private entities, all in the best interest of the residents of Passaic County.

**Educate:** Provide opiate use, misuse, and related treatment knowledge-specific education to the community by enhancing knowledge of available services and new evidence-based methods to improve quality of life within the community as well as eradicate myths and encourage growth in wellness.

**Goals:** The goals designed and approved for 1<sup>st</sup> yr. are to:

1. Increase awareness in the community about Opioid misuse, create safe spaces for residents to have open non-judgmental dialogues at least 10 community events.
2. To open outreach stations in up to 50% (8) municipalities in the County to increase access for all residents to resources, education, and direct services within the borough they live in. Individuals/families in need of intervention will receive services and referrals within the existing service delivery system, ensuring all needs are acknowledged and addressed as needed.
3. Office of Recovery will offer evidenced-based curriculums as needed for anger management, socialization skills, relapse prevention, consequential thinking, changing abusive behavior, and overcoming trauma as direct service to the residents or training to professionals to ensure that providers are equipped with resources to serve the residents of the community. At least 1 public service announcement will be released quarterly starting in 2023.
4. Office of Recovery will support the establishment of 1 sober living program that has facilities within the County for residents in need of the services.
5. The Office of Recovery will create easy access to Narcan and provide training for its usage through training, and partnership with community-based organizations and public entities across the County. To increase access to Narcan, the County of Passaic will support its addition to the First Aid kits in public facilities in the county, starting with a minimum of 5 facilities since the approved resolution.

Goals for the following years will be built upon the needs identified by the participants, providers, and residents through focus groups. The primary focus of services will be on prevention, education, and recovery.

**Marketing Plan:** To reach out to the maximum number of residents, the program will utilize existing social media at the County level, along with the County website, newsletters at partnering community-based agencies and municipalities, Department of Human Services newsletters as well as presence and disbursement of materials at numerous community events across the County throughout the year.

**Recovery Celebration** to celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Office of Recovery, a public event that will be held in September, recovery month. **Theme:** “SHINE” Passaic County Recovery Flag

**The team** is supervised by the Department of Human Services, the Division Director for Mental Health & Addiction, and the Program Manager for the Office of Recovery. Licensed professionals work diligently with partners and residents to address the Opioids epidemic with the goal of improving the quality of life of the residents of Passaic County.