

Spring 2019



RECOVERY IN ACTION



The Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition team has been very busy and we have exciting news to share. Our Director Brandon George was happy to team up with Attorney General Curtis Hill and Indiana Superintendent Jennifer McCormick to speak to high school students at the Indiana Youth Prevention Summit at the Statehouse. He has also been busy advocating for Senate Bill 33, which recently passed and is a significant step forward in the continuum of care for addiction in Indiana. See Legislative Updates below to learn more.

ADVOCACY



Our Deputy Director Jodi Miller's focus is Advocacy and she is out speaking and sharing the message of Recovery throughout the state. She is also busy planning the Recovery Rally, which will include our annual motorcycle ride, a new family canal walk along with speakers, food vendors and live music!



SAVE THE DATE
IAIC RECOVERY RALLY
SAT, SEP 7, 2019
Historic Military Park
at White River State Park
601 W New York St
Downtown Indianapolis, IN

If you would like to learn more about IAIC and be involved with the Recovery Rally, please contact Jodi...

jmiller@mhai.net

EDUCATION



Our Peer Supports Manager Justin Beattey has been busy educating, training and connecting our peer recovery coaches with many organizations throughout the state. He was a speaker for the Mental Health America Northeast Conference in March and continues to align resources for Indiana's Association Peer Recovery Support Services (IAPRSS).

Please contact Justin for more information...

jbeattey@mhai.net



Our Manager of Recovery Community Development Heather Rodriguez is heading up the Indiana Recovery Network...the website will be launching soon. She was recently in Seattle, WA with a group from Indy learning about the new Recovery Cafe that will be coming to Indiana soon.

Please contact Heather for more information...

hrodriguez@mhai.net



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



The 2019 Indiana General Assembly adjourned Sine Die on April 24, 2019. A great deal was accomplished legislatively in the behavioral health arena, creating just a first step as we now move into administrative implementation.

MHAI and IAIC have been strong advocates for treatment and recovery for those addicted to opioids

and compliments Indiana policy makers for their strong work in this area. Unfortunately, much of Indiana's approach to treatment remains piecemeal or siloed. Sadly, the treatment patients receive is often determined more by the door they enter for treatment, rather than their clinical need. Patients with opioid use disorder require all the tools in the toolbox to ensure the best possible outcomes. Senate Enrolled Act 33 passed was a top MHA priority and would help rectify this.

Senate Enrolled Act 33 found [HERE](#), Merritt (R-Indianapolis), Kirchhofer (R-Beech Grove), Davisson (R-Salem) would establish Indiana's Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Centers (CARC) certification to be administered by the Indiana Family & Social Services Administration's Division of Mental Health and Addiction with grants to assist in implementation. This critical new program is based on recently passed federal opioid reforms and would create a pathway for establishing, a CARC in the north, central and southern part of the state, so that residents have access to comprehensive evidence based substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, including Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).

CARCs would help fill the need for coordinated, comprehensive, patient-centered care in Indiana. The current addiction treatment system is fragmented and composed of several types of settings, which provide varying degrees of treatment services. The treatment provided is often highly-specialized, consisting of a specific option instead of offering truly comprehensive, patient-centered care. Patient access and choice of treatment is often dependent on the provider they happen to see as opposed to the continuum of services required by the patient based on clinical need.

A CARC would allow patients to be connected, either on-site or through established referral networks, to a wide range of evidence-based, patient-centered treatment services as well as recovery support programs including, but not limited to: all forms of MAT; detoxification; counseling; residential rehabilitation; recovery housing; community-based and peer recovery support services; and job training and placement assistance. The passage of SEA 33 is a significant step forward in addiction treatment.

