



THIS IS WHO WE ARE.



FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

ADVOCATE. ACT. ADVANCE.

Peers Speak Out:

Priority Outcomes for Substance Use Treatment and Services

presented by

- Orla Kennedy – Community Catalyst
- Sivi Satchithanandan - Community Catalyst
- Joseph Hogan-Sanchez – Faces & Voices

Peers Speak Out



**FACES & VOICES
OF RECOVERY**

ADVOCATE. ACT. ADVANCE.



ASAM

American Society of
Addiction Medicine




Project Overview

- Patients Lead: Identifying Meaningful Outcomes to Drive Substance Use Disorders Research and Care, Project #12786-CC, PCORI
- Led by Community Catalyst in partnership with Faces & Voices of Recovery and American Society of Addiction Medicine
- First national examination of treatment outcomes prioritized by people with substance use disorders
- **Long Term Goal: Drive improvement in treatment outcomes by focusing on what people need and want**

VIDEO

The video player interface features a dark blue background with a circular inset showing three people in a discussion. The title 'Peers Speak Out: Priority Outcomes for Addiction Services' is displayed in large, light blue text. The Community Catalyst logo is in the top left. On the right side, there are three icons: a heart, a clock, and a paper plane. The bottom control bar includes a play button, a progress bar with a '07:11' timestamp, a signal strength indicator, a Creative Commons license icon, a settings gear, and the Vimeo logo.

 **Peers Speak Out: Priority Outcomes for Addiction Services**
from **Community Catalyst**

Peers Speak Out: Priority Outcomes

07:11

CC  **vimeo**

Why This Project Matters

- 20 million Americans have a substance use disorder
- Substance use and overdoses have risen during COVID-19
- Not much data identifying outcomes important to patients
- These findings can inform quality improvement and health system changes to achieve better treatment outcomes

Project Data Collection Methods

- National Peer Council (10 people)
- Anonymous national online survey (800+ people)
- Focus groups (50+ people)

What We Learned

- Outcomes of treatment and recovery support services that matter most to individuals:
 - Staying alive
 - Improving quality of life
 - Reducing harmful substance use
 - Improving mental health
 - Meeting their basic needs
 - Increasing self-confidence / self-efficacy
 - Increasing connection to services and supports

Disconnect
between these
priorities and focus
of current policies,
clinical standards &
quality assessment

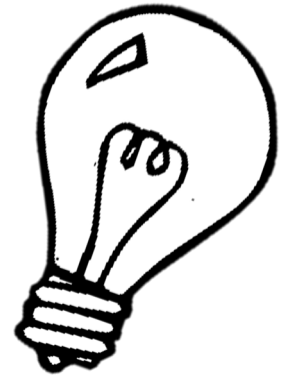
Differences by Race/Ethnicity and Gender (survey)

- ***Taking care of basic needs:*** more important among Black/African American and Hispanic/Latinx respondents than white respondents
- ***Housing stability:*** more important among transgender/nonbinary respondents than cisgender respondents
- ***Developing a recovery support system:*** more important among transgender/nonbinary respondents than cisgender respondents

National Peer Council

The Takeaways

- Treatment & recovery = more than stopping substance use
- People need increased access to comprehensive, culturally effective services that are individually tailored
- The priority outcomes provide a framework for reshaping treatment, research and policy to focus more on survival and improving people's lives



Recommendations: Service Providers

- Clarify individual's desired goals; multiple pathways
- Integrate mental health supports; provide harm reduction services
- Culturally effective whole person approach
- Increase connections to community/social supports
- Virtual services
 - Continue!
 - Training re: active listening skills, non-verbal cues, motivational interviewing
 - Directory of services/training patients how to access



Recommendations: Policymakers

- Funding for full continuum of services, recovery support services, harm reduction programs that keep people alive
- Expand access to all forms of MAT
- Mandate that insurance cover the services needed to help achieve outcomes prioritized by patients; make treatment affordable
- Hold providers accountable for achieving outcomes
- Develop quality measures based on patient-identified outcomes
- Virtual services
 - Make permanent the temporary policies regarding telehealth and take-home doses
 - Provide community-based hubs to safely learn how to use virtual services/platforms



Driving Future Action:

- National Peer Council will continue as workgroup at Faces & Voices of Recovery – specific goal tbd.
- Meetings with federal officials about applying project findings; ONDCP considering how to incorporate into strategic plan
- Creating deeper collaborations between the patient and clinical communities (ASAM plans to increase patient engagement)
- Informing future PCORI research and quality improvement efforts
- Incorporating into advocacy for COVID stimulus funds

Questions?

We are Here to Help

Joseph Hogan-Sanchez

Director of Programs

Faces & Voices of Recovery

jsanchez@facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

Orla Kennedy

Senior Policy Analyst

Community Catalyst

okennedy@communitycatalyst.org

<https://www.communitycatalyst.org/>

Sivi Satchithanandan

Program and Policy Coordinator

Community Catalyst

ssatchithanandan@communitycatalyst.org

<https://www.communitycatalyst.org/>

Helpful links

- Peers Speak Out [project page](#)
- Two-Page Report [here](#)
- Full Report [here](#)
- Video [here](#)



FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

ADVOCATE. ACT. ADVANCE.