

# **Recovery to Practice Monthly Report**

## **November 2013**

### **International Association of Peer Supporters**

#### **Facilitator Training**

On Nov. 23 & 24, the iNAPS RTP team performed a train the facilitator course in Grand Rapids, Michigan. A detailed report is provided separately. A train the facilitator has also been scheduled for Jan. 11, 12, 18 & 19 in New York. This training would involve delivering the RTP curriculum AND a facilitator training. A train the facilitator session is planned for Feb. 23 & 24 in Cincinnati.

For the Grand Rapids training, participant workbooks and the facilitator's guidebook were printed by a donor. The value of printing 10 copies of each is estimated at about \$400. During further implementation, this cost may become a burden and a strategy must be developed to overcome this potential challenge.

In addition to these trainings, peer groups and state officials from North Carolina have expressed interest but that state is still finalizing substantial modifications to its peer support training and certification processes. If a North Carolina facilitator training happens, it would probably be in late 2014. We have also received inquiries from Virginia and Colorado but nothing has been established.

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA, our RTP partner) is gearing up to offer facilitator trainings. DBSA has a huge network and capacity to perform these trainings. We expect that DBSA will play an important role in implementation as we move forward in 2014.

#### **Brochures**

With the expert assistance from Larry Davidson and Deidra Dain, a brochure explaining the RTP project was developed and printed. This publication will be used to promote the RTP curriculum and facilitator training throughout the U.S. A companion brochure was also developed by the iNAPS RTP team that generally explains what peer support is. Both brochures will be distributed at the Dec. 4-7 Alternatives conference in Austin, TX. In addition to an exhibit table, the brochures will be distributed at a workshop presented by Steve Harrington of iNAPS and Tom Hill of Faces and Voices of Recovery and at a peer support caucus.

#### **Curriculum Development**

Minor revisions to the RTP recovery curriculum continue but are nearly complete. Because the curriculum is so near finalization, the current state does not detract from implementation at this point. Following those sessions, modifications are expected to delivery of the facilitator training

but we expect those modifications to be relatively minor and we recognize that every such training will require some flexibility to account for local conditions and needs.

### **Collaboration**

Steve Harrington contacted Cheryl Gagne, deputy director of BRSS TACS to inform her about the curriculum and offer it as a resource for the projects in which BRSS TACS is involved. Cheryl was grateful for the information and said she would share it with BRSS TACS stakeholders and those receiving technical assistance from the organization.

In December, organizations will be identified for the purpose of further disseminating the RTP curriculum. Because of the holidays, this pre-marketing work can be accomplished regardless of the schedules of others. The series of publications for the curriculum will be printed for review by potential collaborators and future train the facilitator sessions.

The eighth webinar, Recovery Relationships: The Art of Creating and Maintaining Healthy Relationships, has been organized and is scheduled for Dec. 2 at noon, EST. Again, this webinar will be possible through the generous donation of technical assistance from OptumHealth. Because of the holidays, no webinar will be offered in January. Several topics, including two that build on previous webinars, are being considered.

iNAPS has referred to the American Psychiatric Association the names and contact information of eight peer supporters in the Washington, D.C. area to help them present their RTP curriculum. Also, iNAPS has asked APA staff to review a document (white paper) that describes the roles of each discipline.