

PEER Support
Specialists A
New
Perspective in
non-traditional
settings

ONESHA COCHRAN- MY
STORY



What are
peer Mentors
and what do
they do?

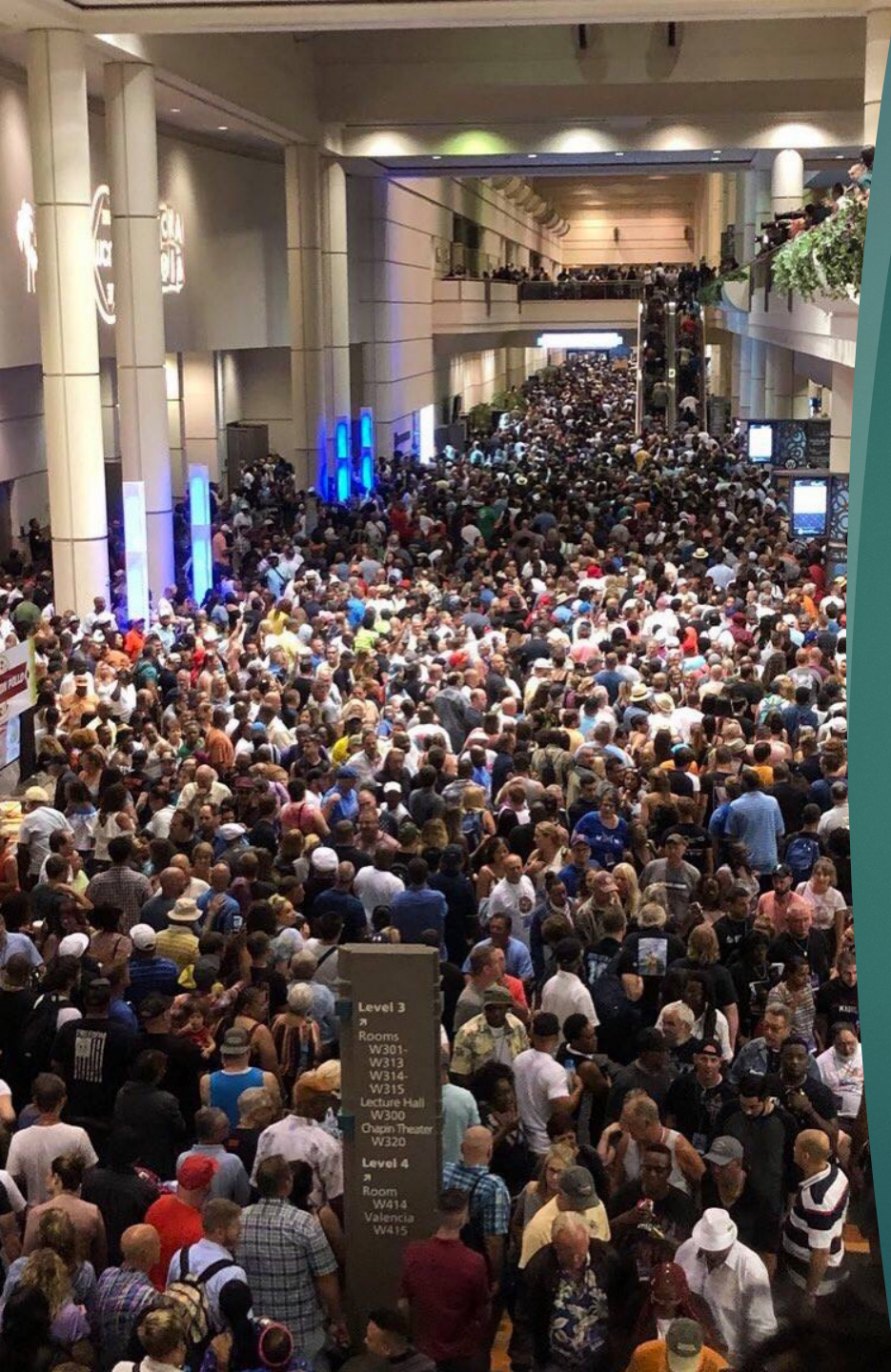


I WAS A PEER AS
PART OF THE IMPACT
PROGRAM AT OHSU,
WHICH HELPED ME
NAVIGATE AND
TRANSITION INTO A
NEW WAY TO LIFE.

I WORKED CLOSELY
WITH MY MENTOR
AND AM NOW
COMING BACK WITH
HOPES TO INSPIRE
OTHERS AND
MOTIVATE THEM TO
DO THE SAME.

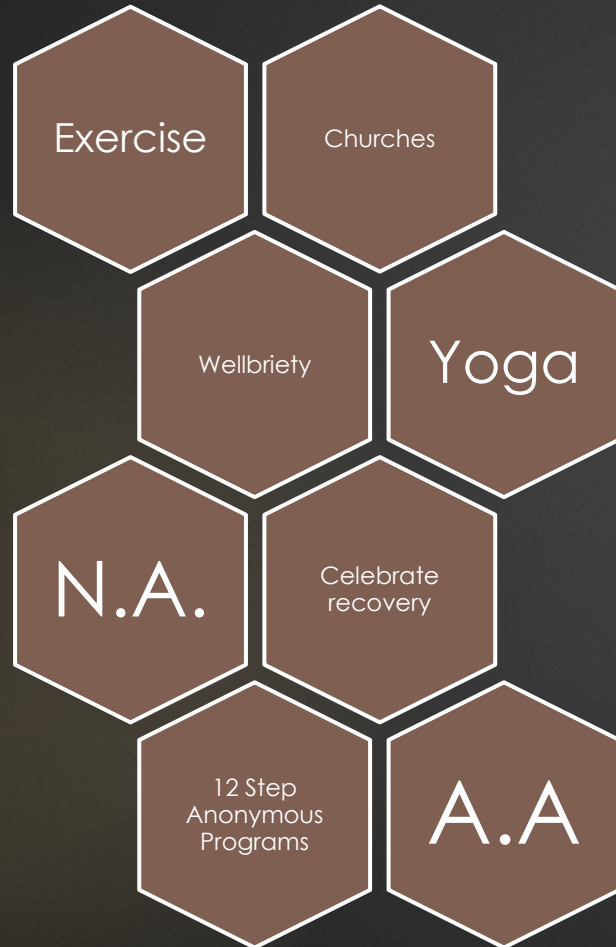
Amee Today

DIRECTOR OF A RECOVERY CENTER
CALLED 4TH DIMENSION AND HAS FULL
CUSTODY OF ALL HER CHILDREN



MILLIONS OF
PEOPLE ARE IN
RECOVERY
TODAY FROM THIS
SIMPLE MODEL.

There are many Paths to Recovery peers help us find our way to our own path path





4 Doctors, 1
Social worker
& A Peer = A
great Team

PEER MENTORS KNOW THE SIGNS

- A Peer Mentor in the addiction field recognizes signs that other people may not see.
- They know when their clients are not being forthright.
- They know when their clients are in danger of a relapse
- They know when their clients have relapsed.
- They may recognize signs of abuse and sex trafficking
- They may realize patients are committing a crime in the moment.
- Peer Mentors can intervene sooner because they can pick up on things others can't

PEER MENTOR'S
GENERATE TRUST
AND SELF-
DISCLOSURE & We
can ask the hard

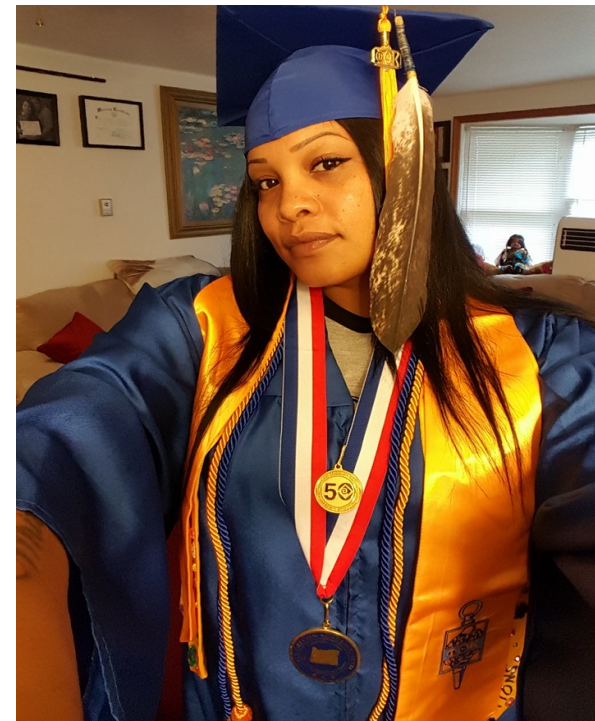
CASE STUDY: "AGNES"



PEER MENTORS CAN EDUCATE AND INSPIRE JUST BY TELLING THEIR STORY.

Meeting another person who was as insane as you were while in active addiction and seeing them living clean, productive lives is an amazing feeling I gives the struggling addict hope, "if they can do it I can too"

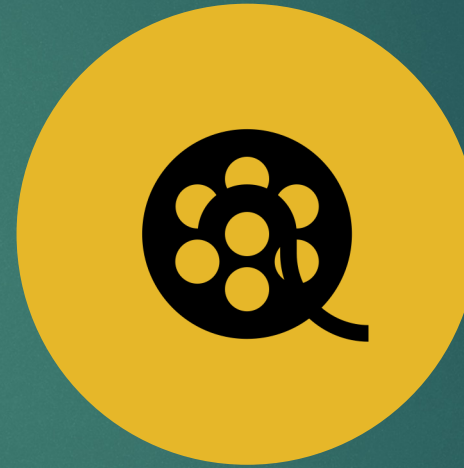
For hospital staff who may have never met a person in recovery it can be invaluable to be able to discuss with the peer what they needed when they were using. If the clinician can hear from a person with lived life experience, they may have a better chance at understanding their patient.



The IMPACT TEAM



[HTTPS://WWW.OPIOIDLIBRARY.ORG/VIDEO/PROJECT-IMPACT-AT-OHSU/](https://www.opioidlibrary.org/video/project-impact-at-ohsu/)



NOW LET'S WATCH A 4-MINUTE VIDEO!

BARRIERS

Remember Peers are still in recovery could struggle with a potential relapse. Therefore, having a peer supervisor is very important.....

Peers may have criminal backgrounds, and this could prevent them from ever working in a hospital/clinic environment unless you contract out

Different cultures can limit peers with a variety of patients so try to have a variety of peers. If you can only get two, get them on opposite ends of the spectrum.

There can be an us vs them mentality when peers integrate on a medical team. Having been in those shoes the only way around it is honesty and mutual respect.

Some professionals may doubt a peers right to work alongside them, but respect must be earned on both sides, and it happens with time and through work done with integrity.



QUESTIONS