



Date: September 1, 2016

DCTS Information Memo 2016-06

To: Subscribers of the DCTS Information Memo Email Distribution List

From: Patrick Cork, Administrator

September is Recovery Month

Governor Scott Walker has issued a [proclamation](#) declaring September as Recovery Month in Wisconsin.

This month is a time to promote the message that recovery is possible, celebrate individuals in recovery from mental health and substance use concerns, and laud the efforts of the mental health and substance use treatment providers who help individuals achieve wellness.

Recovery is Wellness

Together, with your support, the [Division of Care and Treatment Services](#) is building recovery-oriented systems of care in Wisconsin. Recent state investments to promote wellness include:

- The expansion of [Comprehensive Community Services](#) from 31 counties to 63 counties and 1 tribe.
- The expansion of [Coordinated Services Teams Initiatives](#) from 42 counties and tribes to 77 counties and tribes.
- The opening of three [peer run respites](#) to provide peer supports before a concern becomes a crisis.
- The opening of three programs providing [opioid treatment services](#) to the northern region of Wisconsin.
- The development of the [Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program](#) through a federal grant for homeless former veterans with behavioral health concerns.

The DCTS Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery manages and supports many other programs that empower individuals to reach their fullest potential. Additionally, the seven care and treatment facilities managed by DCTS are focused on helping their clients, patients, and residents improve their well-being.

There are tens of thousands of Wisconsin residents whose lives have been transformed through recovery. They're managing their symptoms. They're no longer addicted to alcohol and/or drugs. They have reconnected with family and friends. They have built strong, healthy relationships in their communities. They're gainfully employed and contributing to Wisconsin's economic well-being.

Since these successes often go unnoticed by the broader population, Recovery Month provides a vehicle for everyone to celebrate these accomplishments.

Rally for Recovery

Wisconsin Voices for Recovery, with support from the Department of Health Services and Safe Communities, is sponsoring the [Rally for Recovery](#) on Saturday, September 17, 2016, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the state Capitol. It is a free event. All are welcome to attend. Organizations providing treatment and support to individuals in recovery will be sharing information on recovery resources in Wisconsin. Persons in recovery, their families, and their friends will share their stories. There also will be comments from public officials and a tribute to individuals who lost their lives before they could experience recovery.

Online Resources

The DHS website now features a series of pages focused on mental health and substance use recovery. Visit dhs.wisconsin.gov/recovery for more information and resources, including a collection of five [videos](#) featuring Wisconsin residents sharing their stories of recovery.

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