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The **MOAR** You Know - Summer 2025
Newsletter from the Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

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A Note from Noel Sierra, MOAR Executive Director



Hello to all MOAR members,

Summer greetings! It is my hope and prayer that everyone is enjoying the start of summer! As we continue soaking up the warm weather, let's remember to stay safe, wear sunscreen, and enjoy a good cookout or two!

If you haven't already, we encourage you to check out **MOAR's 2025 Policy Priorities** and take action by contacting your State Representative and Senator to ask them to sponsor these vital policies.

We're also excited to announce that our Recovery Day Celebration is happening on September 26th on the Boston Common! Save the date, spread the word to friends and family, and don't forget to register.

Let's continue to be Visible, Vocal, and MOAR Valuable!

Each One Reach One... Recovery is Real.

See you soon!
Noel Sierra

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiative



MOAR is continuously committed to working alongside and listening to the voices of all communities. **MOAR** has been taking concrete measures to help eliminate racial disparities in accessing recovery from substance use disorders.

BIPOC COMMUNITY LUNCH AND LEARN
DO YOU WANT TO BE A RECOVERY COACH?

JOIN US AS WE HIGHLIGHT THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE BIPOC COMMUNITY IN THE RECOVERY COACHING PROFESSION AND TO DISCUSS THE VALUE OF LIVED EXPERIENCE IN SUPPORTING FELLOW PEERS.

DATE: AUGUST 21, 2025 START TIME 12:00PM
LOCATION: 17 WARREN STREET
LOWELL, MA 01852
LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

   

**Better Minds Recovery Cafe
Intro to Recovery Coaching
BIPOC Resource Fair**

When: Wednesday, July 23rd 2025
1p – 4p
Where: Mason Square Library
765 State St
Springfield, MA 01109

The Springfield Community is on a healing journey. Come learn about the value of your lived experience in supporting others through their own journey. Please join us in learning more about Recovery Coaching and a recovery community that supports health and wellness. Light lunch and beverages will be provided.

   

Recap: MOAR's Policy Forums

Throughout the Spring and early Summer, MOAR hosted its two major annual policy forums, along with a series of successful regional mini-forums across Massachusetts. These events brought together advocates, legislators, and community members in support of recovery-focused public policy.

Boston Public Policy Forum



Director Calvert highlighted the successes of



Leah Randolph shared accomplishments from



Kara Mulvey, a parent advocate, spoke in support of a bill to assist young people in recovery on college campuses. Her presentation included a powerful video message from her daughter sharing her recovery journey.



Elected officials in attendance included Senator Keenan, Rep. Schwartz, Rep. Tarsky, Rep. Donaghue, who spoke about current and upcoming legislation.



Lynn Wencus, a parent of loss, shared her passion and love of her son, as she continues to fight for OPCs in MA.



Rep. Decker spoke on the importance of quality addiction education, compassionate treatment, and effective harm reduction services.

Western MA Policy Forum & "Recovery City" Screening



Senator John Velis and Rep. Mindy Domb, Chairs of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, reaffirmed their support for a robust continuum of care and harm reduction strategies.



Senator Adam Gomez spoke passionately about CORI reform and the Clean Slate Initiative as vital to reentry and long-term recovery.



Individuals with lived experience shared personal stories, grounding the policy discussion in real-world impact and emphasizing the need for compassionate, evidence-based legislation.

Regional Mini Policy Forums

Through these forums, MOAR continues to provide education, uplift voices of lived experience, and promote policy rooted in dignity, equity, and recovery. Advocacy in Action!



Thursday, May 22 – St. Francis Xavier Center, Worcester, MA



Thursday, June 12 – Anchored in Recovery, Framingham, MA



Thursday, June 12 – The Bridge Recovery Center, Malden, MA



Friday, May 30 – RISE Recovery Center, New Bedford, MA



Monday, June 16 – Living in Recovery, Pittsfield, MA

Save the Date: MOAR's Recovery Month Celebration Day 2025

Join MOAR for our 35th Annual Recovery Month Celebration and March as we honor Recovery Month this September! This powerful day brings together individuals in recovery, families, friends, allies, elected officials, and providers from across Massachusetts to uplift the voices of recovery and demonstrate its value to our communities.

Friday, September 26th, 2025
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common
Registration Check-In: 9:00-10:00AM
Event Programming: 10:00-3:00PM

What to Expect:

- A morning and afternoon filled with inspirational speakers, including elected officials, community leaders, and champions of recovery.
- March for Recovery through the Boston Common to raise awareness and reduce stigma.
- Resources and information tables from recovery support organizations.
- Opportunities to connect, advocate, and celebrate the power of recovery.



Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
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Join the Voices for Recovery!

**MOAR's 35th Recovery Month
Celebration Day**

Friday, September 26th
10:00AM - 3:00PM
(9:00AM - Registration)

Boston Common
(Charles & Beacon Street Entrance)



Registration is required for the event
Tickets are free

Click Here to Register Now!

MOAR
Join the Voices for Recovery!

Are You in Recovery, Family or Friend?
Get Involved!

Help Plan Our Recovery Month Celebration Day!

**Every Monday
Starting June 16
6:00 PM**

**Meeting ID: 821 6106 1349
Passcode: 023022**

Questions?
info@moar-recovery.org // 617-423-6627

Energized and Inspired: Reflections from the Faces & Voices of Recovery Leadership Summit



We're thrilled to share that members of the MOAR team recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the Faces & Voices of Recovery Leadership Summit—a gathering of passionate advocates, visionary leaders, and changemakers committed to advancing the national recovery movement.

Over the course of several powerful days, our team immersed themselves in meaningful discussions, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities with recovery leaders from across the country. The summit served as a vital platform to exchange best practices, explore innovative strategies, and deepen our collective commitment to advocacy, equity, and long-term recovery support.

We return home energized, inspired, and more committed than ever to building a recovery-ready nation—one where every voice is heard, and every person seeking recovery is met with hope and

support.



Hill Day 2025 was a powerful reminder of what we can achieve when we come together and speak with one voice.

We kicked off the morning with a press conference on Capitol Hill, where recovery and mental health leaders from across the country gathered to demand stronger federal investment in behavioral health.

With powerful remarks from Congressman Paul D. Tonko, Faces & Voices of Recovery, the National Coalition for Mental Health Recovery, and grassroots advocates with lived experience, we called for:

- Protecting Medicaid and federal block grant funding
 - Supporting the peer recovery workforce
- Investing in community-based alternatives to institutional care

Following the press conference, we took to the Hill to meet directly with lawmakers and ensure recovery remains a priority in federal policy. MOAR, alongside our Massachusetts colleagues, had the opportunity to meet with Senator Markey's staff to share our experiences and advocate for continued progress.



A standout moment for **MOAR** was attending the America Honors Recovery Gala, where our beloved Founder and former Executive Director, Maryanne Frangules, was honored with the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award. This prestigious recognition celebrates Maryanne's decades of tireless dedication to the recovery movement and her transformational leadership in Massachusetts and beyond.

MOAR Trainings

MOAR offers two important trainings aimed at helping individuals use their voices for productive change!

Recovery Messaging: This training helps individuals understand the impact of stigma and language on recovery. We can assist you in identifying key elements of recovery messages.

Ultimately, attendees will be able to craft and deliver their own positive recovery messages.

Advocacy 101: This training helps individuals understand how public policies and laws are developed and changed. Additionally, the training covers the state budget process. Finally, we will demonstrate strategies and best practices for effective visits/calls with your legislators.

These trainings are put on by our awesome team of regional coordinators and can run anywhere between 45-90 minutes each.

Please reach out via **phone (617-423-6627)**, or **email (info@moar-recovery.org)** if you are interested in scheduling a training or would like to learn more!

A flyer for MOAR (Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery) training. The flyer has a purple and blue color scheme. At the top left is the MOAR logo with the tagline "Join the Voices for Recovery!". The main heading is "ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TAKING FREE RECOVERY TRAININGS?". Below this, there are two sections: "RECOVERY MESSAGING" and "ADVOCACY 101", each with a bulleted list of topics. A yellow speech bubble with "CONTACT US" is in the center. To the right, text says "Reach out to MOAR and we will accommodate all requests for FREE trainings!" and "Trainings can range in length, from 45-90 minutes". At the bottom, there is a "CONTACT US" button and the email "info@moar-recovery.org // 617-423-6627". An illustration of a woman presenting at a desk is on the right side.

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
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Join the Voices for Recovery!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TAKING FREE RECOVERY TRAININGS?

RECOVERY MESSAGING

- Describe the impact of stigma & language on recovery
- Identify recovery messages to be modeled for people in recovery
- Craft & deliver positive recovery messages

ADVOCACY 101

- Explain how public policies & laws are developed and changed
- Understand the state budget process
- Demonstrate strategies & best practices for effective visits with legislators

CONTACT US

Reach out to MOAR and we will accommodate all requests for **FREE** trainings!

Trainings can range in length, from 45-90 minutes

CONTACT US info@moar-recovery.org // 617-423-6627



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