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## Sept. 6 National Recovery Month Kick-Off Updates – Focus on Outreach

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Today is the start of our new DDAP feature: **More on Mondays**. Each Monday in August, DDAP will release information on the National Recovery Month kick-off event, set for Wednesday, Sept. 6, at 10 a.m. in the Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg.

Join us to show the faces of recovery in Pennsylvania! We need you to help us spread the word about our event and the opportunity to submit a personal recovery story:

Please share this information with all those interested in and in recovery: people suffering from substance use disorder (SUDs), people in treatment, support groups, treatment providers, county advocates and organizations, doctors and hospitals, friends and family members.

You can share using social media (Facebook and Twitter), e-mails, and posters (contact Carol Gifford at [cagifford@pa.gov](mailto:cagifford@pa.gov) for a PDF).

- **Social media outreach for the Pennsylvania Kick-off for National Recovery Month:**

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/PennsylvaniaDDAP>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/padrugalcohol>

- **E-mails:**

You can copy this image to share in the body of your e-mail:



# PLEASE JOIN US!

**Pennsylvania Kick-Off of National Recovery Month**  
**10 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 6, Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg**  
**@PArecovers #PArecovers**

- **Submit Your Stories of Recovery here:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PArecovers>

Please also share this information and encourage those living in recovery to share their stories.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 3, 2017**

## **Share Stories of Recovery from Opioid and Alcohol Addictions**

**Harrisburg, PA** – Pennsylvanians are invited to share their stories of recovery from opioid and alcohol addictions and disorders as part of the statewide kick-off of National Recovery Month in September.

“We invite people to send us their stories of recovery to share with others,” said Jennifer Smith, acting secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP). “We want to celebrate all those living in long-term recovery, and encourage those considering or receiving treatment to think about the bright future ahead in a life free of substance misuse.”

A story could include information about your treatment and recovery journey and advice that could be helpful to others. You can also upload a photo or other image. These stories may be included on the DDAP website and social media. Posted stories will not contain identifying information. Some individuals may be asked to share their stories in upcoming events. Send your story via the recovery story [link](#).

The 2017 theme for National Recovery Month is *Join the Voices for Recovery: Strengthen Families and Communities*. Recovery month as noted by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is in its 17<sup>th</sup> year, with the goal of celebrating the accomplishments of people whose lives have been transformed through recovery.

“National Recovery Month is the time to promote the message: treatment works and recovery is possible,” Smith said. “Many of those affected live in long-term recovery, and often want to share the good news with those who may be struggling to make it to recovery.”

Recovery stories will be part of the statewide kick-off ceremony for National Recovery Month set for 10 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 6, in the Capitol Main Rotunda, Harrisburg. The event will include speakers from people in recovery, and entertainment. There will be a photo station to take pictures of the “faces of recovery” or those “supporting recovery” in Pennsylvania. All are invited to attend this free event – and to check for other National Recovery Month [local events](#).

Recovery from SUDs is possible, said Smith, and the state offers help and support including:

- Reversing overdoses with naloxone to keep people alive,
- Providing a PA. Helpline, 1-800-662-HELP, where people can call toll-free, 24/7, to speak with a person to find a detox bed and treatment options, and,
- Assisting those in recovery with supports.

“At a time when Pennsylvania is losing 13 people each day to the opioid crisis, we want to spread the good news that people can get treatment and live in recovery,” said Smith.

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**Be watching for “More on Mondays” on Monday, August 14!**

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