



2016 Recovery Advocacy Agenda

Major Initiatives

1. **Reduce Stigma** – host and participate in activities, events and education that put a face on recovery and mobilize the recovery community to stand up and speak out for recovery.
2. **Build Recovery in MN** – support and promote efforts that strengthen the Recovery Community in MN, emphasizing that alcohol and drug addiction is a chronic but treatable disease.

Targeted Issues

1. **Invest in Access to Recovery** – Support the efforts of the Coalition of Recovery Investment and the MN Department of Human Services on opportunities such as the MN application for the 115 Waiver for Substance Use Disorder, integrating Peer Recovery Specialists in a continuum of care, media campaign to reduce stigmas as a barrier to recovery, significant investment in specialty courts like drug courts, reauthorize funding for the preservation of Minnesota’s four Recovery Schools, funding for naloxone kits, expand funding to combat Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and opioid dependent infants, additional treatment beds for the Department of Corrections, increase funding for Department of Corrections Transitional Housing needs in re-entry and other efforts.
2. **CARA (Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2015)** – In an effort to provide Americans in Recovery resources they need to live full and healthy lives in recovery, organize support for the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2015, which is the most expansive federal, bipartisan legislation to date for addiction support services, designating up to \$80 million toward advancing treatment and recovery support services in state and local communities across the country.
3. **Voter Restoration** - Advance voter access and support full restoration of voter rights for citizens who are no longer incarcerated and who are living in the community.

On-going Positions

1. **Health Care** - Ensure that the Recovery Community is educated about Health Care Reform in Minnesota and when appropriate assist individuals in accessing health insurance through MNSure.
2. **Parity** - Support all efforts to fully implement the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act.
3. **State Substance Abuse Strategy** – Support and promote the efforts and initiatives outlined in the Minnesota State Substance Abuse Strategy.
4. **Steve’s Law** – Support the education and implementation of Steve’s Law, MN’s Good Samaritan legislation that was passed and enacted during the 2014 Legislative Session.

For more information about MRC’s Recovery Advocacy Agenda, Please contact
Julia Parnell at 612-584-4158 or julia@minnesotarecovery.org