



# Creating a Shared Vision of Supervision

VIRTUAL SUPERVISION SUMMIT

Day 1: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 | 12pm - 4 pm

Day 2: Thursday, January 30, 2025 | 9am - 4pm

## A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

# Welcome to the 2nd Annual PeerTAC Summit for Supervisors of Peer Support Services.

### PEERTAC DIRECTORS



**Rita Cronise, MS, ALWF**  
Co-Director of PeerTAC and  
Coordinator Academy of Peer  
Services (APS) Virtual Learning  
Community



**Amy Piroli, FPA-C**  
Co-Director of PeerTAC and  
Director of Peer Support Training  
at NYU McSilver

We are excited to share this year's Supervision Summit: **Creating a Shared Vision for Peer Support Supervision** with you. The Summit speakers and workshops will offer you a rare opportunity to benefit from the wisdom of experienced leaders and supervisors in the peer support community. We are confident you will find something here that is relevant to your supervision practice.

The Peer Support Services Technical Assistance Center (PeerTAC) was established to bridge gaps between the child and adult serving mental health systems within the New York State Office of Mental Health and it provides training, technical assistance, and support for organizations providing Peer Support Services for anyone across the lifespan who may benefit from working with people who have lived through similar circumstances.

While originally focused on assisting Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS) outpatient clinics, who were newly able to bill for Peer Support Services at the Center's inception, the work and resources of PeerTAC also relate to other service settings, such as inpatient, forensic, crisis, housing, care coordination, outpatient, school-based settings, recovery centers, and many more. We hope you will find this journey to the Summit as an opportunity to gain guidance from supervision pioneers and practitioners with years in the field – whether they work in the child serving system, the adult serving system, or another system involved in providing Peer Support Services. Following the Summit, you will have new tools and insights to reflect upon your own practice, and continue to strive for excellence in your work with our vulnerable populations.

### About PeerTAC

Rutgers University and NYU McSilver Institute are partners in leading PeerTAC. Over the past two years our combined staff, along with organizational partners, have delivered online and in-person training, on demand technical assistance, and a website with an extensive library of resources to guide organizational leaders, managers, supervisors, and employed peer support staff.

We offer organizational assessment resources and toolkits to more effectively work with members of the peer support workforce, whether you are just getting started or want to increase the quality of the existing peer support programs in your array of services. PeerTAC offers assistance to supervisors through self-directed online self-reflection resources and a monthly virtual Supervision Learning Network (SLN) meeting where you can have the opportunity to interact with other supervisors of peer support staff.

**Be sure to check out our website to learn more about these opportunities for ongoing learning: [www.peertac.org](http://www.peertac.org)**



Explore the  
Innovative  
PeerTAC  
Products

All of our products are developed to assist mental health organizations in enhancing or establishing Peer Support Services that align with the fundamental values of peer support. These offerings are designed to promote recovery and encourage resilient, uplifting practices. By integrating these tools, organizations can foster an environment that truly supports individuals on their path to wellness.

Scan to view  
featured resources



or visit: [bit.ly/46hsa02](https://bit.ly/46hsa02)  
then, type **PASSWORD: 726**

## Panelists Day 1



Joanne Forbes



Lynnae Brown



Sheri Seguin



Yumi Ikuta

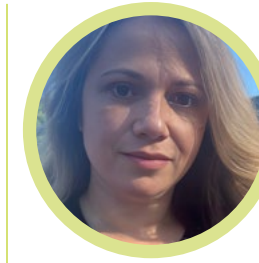
## Panelists Day 2



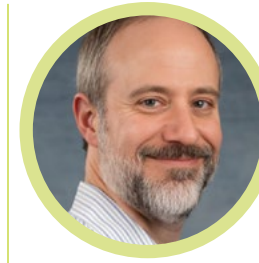
Justice Wolcott



Melanie Hecker



Jennifer Fuchs



Jeremy Rueling



Amy Piroli  
Moderator

# Workshop Tracks



### GENERATIONS

For supervisors working in child, youth, and family programs, this track highlights the important work and insights that support supervision of Family Peer Advocates (FPA) and Youth Peer Advocates (YPA). Make sure to also check out the other tracks for additional sessions of interest.



### INSPIRATIONS

For supervisors seeking to connect with the heart and soul of the peer support advocates/pioneers and those who continue to act today as agents of change. This track features accomplished supervisors who are bringing their personal experiences into a more universal movement that is transforming the behavioral health workforce.



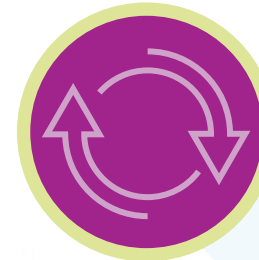
### INNOVATIONS

For supervisors who are looking for fresh approaches or new tools to walk the tightrope between behavioral health system requirements, organizational policies and procedures, and the ability to truly tap into the ingenuity and creativity of the peer support workforce.



### COLLABORATIONS

For supervisors to learn more about the community of peer support organizations that are funded by OMH outside of traditional treatment settings who can guide more collaborative approaches not only to supervision, but the overall delivery of peer support services that align with the core values and practices of peer support.



### TRANSFORMATIONS

For supervisors who are ready to include the voices of the peer support workforce as equal partners in their own personal (individual), organizational, and system transformation efforts.



# Agenda Day 1

## AFTERNOON

Time	Topic			
12:00 – 1:15 PM	Opening Session and Round Table Plenary: Joanne Forbes, Lynnae Brown, Sheri Seguin, Yumi Ikuta The Secrets of Supervision: Unleashing the Magic of the Peer Support Workforce			
<b>1:15-1:30 PM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>			
<b>1:30-2:30 PM</b>	<b>Session 1</b>			
<b>Generations</b>	<b>Inspiration</b>	<b>Innovations</b>	<b>Collaboration</b>	<b>Transformation</b>
Amplifying Workforce Diversity and Equity through a Family and Youth Peer Advocacy Learning Collaboration	Cultivating a Culture of Supportive Peers Who Are Supervisors - One Person's Experience	Meet the PeerTAC Experts: The People Behind the Documentation Done Right	Who's Supervising the Supervisors?	Dadvocating: Inclusive Father-Centered Practices
<b>2:30-2:45 PM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>			
<b>2:45-3:45 PM</b>	<b>Session 2</b>			
<b>Generations</b>	<b>Inspiration</b>	<b>Innovations</b>	<b>Collaboration</b>	<b>Transformation</b>
Fostering LGBTQ+ Inclusivity as a Supervisor	The Power of Heart-Centered Supervision for Peers	Peer Specialist Supervision Across Roles: What We've Learned and Built in OnTrackNY	Meet the PeerTAC Experts: The People Behind the Working with Peer-Run Organizations Guide	Listening to the Peer Support Workforce: An Action Agenda to Strengthen Peer Workforce Supervision
4:00-4:30 PM	Closing Session			



**For more detailed information on the panelists for days 1 and 2, see pages 8-9, and 12-13.**

# Agenda Day 2

## MORNING

Time	Topic			
9:00 – 10:15 AM	Opening Session and Panel Presentation: Panelists: Justice Walcott, Melanie Hecker, Jennifer Fuchs, and Jeremy Reuling with Amy Piroli (moderator) The Power of Peers: Navigating Supervision Together			
<b>10:15-10:30 AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>			
<b>10:30-11:30 AM</b>	<b>Session 3</b>			
<b>Generations</b>	<b>Inspiration</b>	<b>Innovations</b>	<b>Collaboration</b>	<b>Transformation</b>
Meet the Experts: The People Behind Youth Power	Supervision Through the Looking Glass of Trauma: How to See and Respond to Trauma in the Workplace	Unlocking Peer Support Potential	Authentic and Strengthening Peer Support Supervision and Collaborative Practices	To Keep Fidelity of Peer Services, Peer Supervision is a Must
<b>11:30-11:45 AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>			
<b>11:45 AM-12:45 PM</b>	<b>Session 4</b>			
<b>Generations</b>	<b>Inspiration</b>	<b>Innovations</b>	<b>Collaboration</b>	<b>Transformation</b>
How to Supervise in Integrated Peer Support as a Trauma Survivor	Personal Reflections on Becoming a Supervisor	Authentic Supervision that Honors Uniqueness	How to Implement Co-Reflection Peer Support Supervision	The Role of Statewide Program Management and Its Impact on Peer Supervision in the Community
<b>12:45-1:30 PM</b>	<b>Lunch</b>			

## AFTERNOON

Topic	Topic			
<b>1:30-3:30 PM</b>	<b>Session 5</b>			
<b>Generations</b>	<b>Inspiration</b>	<b>Innovations</b>	<b>Collaboration</b>	<b>Transformation</b>
Elevating Peer Support Supervision: Crafting a Collective Vision for Growth and Empowerment	Did They Say That? Yes They Did: Dealing with Microaggressions in Supervision	Meet the Experts: The People Behind the Tools for Organizational Transformation  Meet the PeerTAC Experts: The People Behind the Peer Specialists Supervision Guide for MHOTRS Clinics and the APS Supervision Specialization Track	Community Partnerships: How Can Peer-Run Organizations Support Peer Services in Provider Agencies?	Supervising Peer Supporters in Maintaining Values, Ethics and Boundaries
<b>3:30 - 4:00 PM</b>	Summit Closing Session – Supervision Across the Lifespan: Creating Unity and Shared Vision – Next Steps			

# Round Table Day 1

12:00 - 1:15 PM: OPENING SESSION AND ROUND TABLE PLENARY

## Round Table: The Secrets of Supervision: Unleashing the Magic of the Peer Support Workforce

In this opening discussion, PeerTAC content advisors and policy makers share sage wisdom from their collective two centuries of providing, supervising, and/or overseeing peer support services in mental health settings. They discuss supervision of the peer support workforce in 2025, draw upon their experiences as change agents in systems that resist change, and their secrets for unleashing the creative potential that peer support brings not only to recipients of services but to organizations and communities as a whole.



**Dr. Joanne Forbes**

Dr. Joanne Forbes is an author, educator, administrator, and peer supporter who consults nationally on system transformation and peer support service delivery, implementation, training, and supervision. Her published research on the supervision of peer specialists is a seminal work in the field and her first book, "Madness: Heroes Returning from the Front Lines," is an in-depth account of the rise of Baltic Street Wellness Solutions, Inc., one of the largest peer-run agencies in the U.S. Widely recognized as a visionary and advocate for those facing mental health challenges, she shares her years of wisdom through the PeerTAC Supervision Guide, Academy of Peer Services Specialization Track on Supervision, and co-editor of the book, "What it Takes: Wisdom from Peer Support Specialists & Supervisors."

[Meet the Panelist](#)



**Lynnae Brown**

Lynnae Brown is sought after consultant and former Director of Howie The Harp Advocacy Center (HTH), an internationally acclaimed peer run program dedicated to employment preparation for people in mental health recovery. For over a decade, Lynnae supported the development of the Center and its peer training program by incorporating the experience and feedback from working peers, the people they support, and the supervisors of programs that employ peer support providers. For more information about her work, please visit her website [www.lynnaebrown.com](http://www.lynnaebrown.com).

[Meet the Panelist](#)



**Sheri Seguin**

Sheri Seguin was diagnosed with learning issues at age seven and received her first mental health diagnosis at age ten. Initially she chose to become an educator to help people, like herself and members of her family, realize their strengths and potential. Her family, supporters, and employers allowed Sheri to see her unique characteristics, supporting her with the time and space for her personal growth and evolution. In 2021, a pivot was necessary and her focus shifted to education and advocacy in the behavioral health realm. She now serves as a CORE Peer Navigator and Outreach Lead Rest of State for the Alliance for Rights and Recovery. Also a founding member & chairperson of NAMI of St. Lawrence & Jefferson Counties NY, trainer/facilitator of many things including NAMI Programs, MHANYS Mental Health Community Partners & CarePath, and safeTALK.

[Meet the Panelist](#)



**Yumiko Ikuta**

Yumiko Ikuta is a mental health consumer and Director of the Office of Rehabilitation in the Bureau of Mental Health at the NYC Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene. Her office oversees 80+ non-clinical treatment and rehabilitation programs, including supported employment, education support services, clubhouses, psychosocial clubs, peer support, respite, self-help, advocacy and outreach, as well as peer specialist training programs. She served as the former Deputy Director of Howie the Harp Peer Advocacy Center and former Program Manager of the Academy of Peer Services. While working with the NYS Office of Mental Health, she developed the Medicaid billable Home and Community Based Services and its delivery system. She worked for over 15 years in the corporate sector and for the US Agency for International Development at the Dept. of State as an economic development officer in several developing countries.

[Meet the Panelist](#)



# Workshops Day 1

SESSION 1: 1:30-2:30 PM



## GENERATIONS TRACK

### Amplifying Workforce Diversity and Equity through a Family and Youth Peer Advocacy Learning Collaboration

**Presenter:** Sara I. Taylor, BSW, MS, FPA-P

In this Inspirational TED-Like Talk, Sara I. Taylor highlights an emerging Workforce Development model designed through the lens of equity to increase the representation of credentialed Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Family and Youth Peer Advocates working across the health/behavioral health care in New York.



## INSPIRATIONS TRACK

### Cultivating a Culture of Supportive Peers Who Are Supervisors - One Person's Experience

**Presenter:** Sondra Siegel-Rakitovan, FPA-C

In this informative and practical session, you will learn factors agencies can implement to best support the success and growth of peer supervisors. Some cultural challenges that organizations may face and approaches which will foster a more positive environment will be described. Other common barriers in terms of tokenism and lack of authenticity, among other challenges will be identified and discussed. This discussion will be hedged in the presenter's individual experience as a peer supervisor in two different environments.



## INNOVATIONS TRACK

### Meet the PeerTAC Experts: The People Behind the Documentation Done

**Presenters:** Yvette Kelly, LMHC, Maria Fuentes, FPA

In this session you will meet members of the team of mental health care practitioners and peer specialist/advocates behind the (CTAC) Documentation Done Right, Additional Resources for Peer Support Service Delivery. They discuss essential elements of documentation, distinctions between clinical and peer support documentation, and new documentation resources to support Peer Providers in documenting Medicaid services for peer support services across the lifespan.



## COLLABORATIONS TRACK

### Who's Supervising the Supervisors?

**Presenter:** Gita Enders, LMSW, MA, NYCPS

In this interactive session Gita will describe the emerging presence of supervisors of peer specialists/advocates in settings where they now may be supervised by experienced peer support practitioners or by clinicians who are ideally working from a peer-informed perspective. After a review of scenarios illustrating different situations in supervision, participants will have an opportunity to share their current situation, identify challenges and rewards with supervising supervisors, and discuss differences between direct supervision of specialists/advocates and supervising the supervisors while considering personal qualities and competencies that are essential to providing supervision to the supervisor.



## TRANSFORMATIONS TRACK

### Dadvocating: Inclusive Father-Centered Policies

**Presenter:** Simcha Weinstein, FPA

In this practical and illuminating session, you will discover effective methods of creating positive and inclusive father-centric spaces to empower fatherhood engagement by honoring their lived experiences and addressing unique struggles faced by fathers. Learn how to support, elevate and amplify fathers' voices, particularly those from stigmatized and marginalized communities, making sure their experiences and contributions are heard and valued in both family life and community discussions.

# Workshops Day 1

SESSION 2: 2:45-3:45 PM



## GENERATIONS TRACK

### Fostering LGBTQ+ Inclusivity as a Supervisor

**Presenter:** Jay Culkin MA, YPA-C, NYCPS-P

In this session, supervisors of peer specialists and advocates will discover (or rediscover) basic vocabulary relating to the LGBTQ community, learn about the challenges different parts of the LGBTQ community face, and discuss strategies for making the workplace more inclusive to not only to service recipients and peer support practitioner but also to all service providers. The session includes resources for creating or enhancing an inclusivity plan and participants will have the opportunity to ask questions in a forward facing, "brave space."



## INSPIRATIONS TRACK

### The Power of Heart-Centered Supervision for Peers

**Presenter:** Lori Ashcraft, Ph.D.

In this session, you will discover how the heart-based supervisor understands and respects the gifts and potential peers bring to the healing process and provides a practical and effective approach to creating personal and professional growth through authentic, relationship-based coaching. The heart-based (HB) supervisor manages the usual responsibilities of workload, paperwork, etc., but the focus of supervision is on supporting the peer in providing meaningful, heart-felt services, while learning to bring their own unique gifts to bear.



## INNOVATIONS TRACK

### Peer Specialist Supervision Across Roles - What We've Learned and Built in OnTrackNY

**Presenters:** Abbe Duke, Elise Diamond, NYCPS

In this session you will be introduced to the OnTrackNY approach to peer specialist/advocate work. OnTrackNY empowers young people who are impacted by changes in thinking and perceptions to pursue their goals for school, work, and relationships. Within OnTrack, supervision is a crucial using a thoughtful, role-based approach. During the session we will share a variety of resources developed for OnTrackNY Peer Specialists & their supervisors, as well as the support structures we have developed within the OnTrackNY model.



## COLLABORATIONS TRACK

### Meet the PeerTAC Experts: The People Behind the PeerTAC Working with Peer Run Organizations Guide

**Presenters:** Shannon Higbee, Rebecca Evansky

In this session, Shannon Higbee, former CEO of Recovery Options Made Easy, and Rebecca Evansky, Director of the Wellness Collaborative of New York (WCNY) describe the effect of peer support and working in (or directing) peer-run organizations on their own lives. They discuss the importance of developing peer support that is true to the values of human connection, mutual relationships, and community inclusion, offering an "inside look" at how peer-run organizations differ from traditional mental health treatment settings. They then provide an overview of contracting for supervision and other models traditional mental health treatment agencies can explore to collaborate with peer-run organizations. This discussion also provides an orientation to the PeerTAC Working with Peer Run Organizations Guide.



## TRANSFORMATIONS TRACK

### Listening to the Peer Support Workforce: An Action Agenda to Strengthen Peer Workforce Supervision

**Presenters:** Jeremy Reuling, LCSW, NYCPS, Jessica Wolf, PhD

This session focuses on supervision priorities as reported in a 2024 resource, "Listening to the Peer Support Workforce – Top Ten Priorities: An Action Agenda," Participants learn about three of the top ten priorities directly related to ways in which supervisors and peer specialists can become agents for advocacy and change. The resource was written by three authors/researchers with lived experience and supervision expertise who conducted a series of participatory action activities over six years at local, state, and national peer conferences. What they heard directly from the peer support workforce can help guide supervisors in organizational and systems change efforts.

4:00-4:30 PM  
Closing Session



# Panel Discussion Day 2

9:00-10:15 AM: OPENING SESSION AND PANEL DISCUSSION

## Panel Discussion: The Power of Peers: Navigating Supervision Together

This Panel Presentation is composed of a panel of 4 Peer Support Providers that represent the lifespan. 1 Youth Peer Advocate, 1 Family Peer Advocate, 1 Adult Peer Specialist, and 1 Statewide Youth and Young Adult Advocacy Specialist. Each Panelist brings their unique lived experience as well as their professional peer experience from the lens of a Peer Supervisor and/or as the Supervised Peer. The panelists will engage in a dynamic dialogue highlighting the uniqueness of Peer Support Supervision across the lifespan.



**Jennifer Fuchs**

Jennifer Fuchs, FPA-C, CFPS, is the Director of Peer Services and High Fidelity Wraparound at SCO. Jennifer is a credentialed Family Peer Advocate (FPA-C) through Families Together in NYS and Certified Family Peer Specialist (CFPS) through the National Federation of Families. Jennifer has 30 years of lived expertise across the lifespan, beginning as a youth navigating her own challenges within the NYS mental health system to becoming a dedicated family peer advocate to support her own children's needs in navigating the various systems of care. Jennifer graduated with a degree in Forensic Psychology from CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice, where she found hope and a sense of community through her participation in the McNair Scholars, while furthering her education to support her vast knowledge gained through lived experience. Jennifer was the recipient of the 2024 What's Great in our State award in the Family/Caregiver category, for the impact of her work with youth and families across New York State.

[Meet the Panelist](#)



**Melanie Hecker**

Melanie Hecker is the current Statewide Youth and Young Adult Advocacy Specialist at the New York State Office of Mental Health. She is an autistic young adult with mental health challenges and she began her career at the age of fifteen, speaking on what it is as a young person with developmental disability and mental health system experience. She eventually went on to work as the Systems Advocate of Youth Power before going on to get her combined BA/MPA degree in Public Policy and Administration from the University at Albany. During her time at UAlbany, she was the Student Representative on the Post-Secondary Advisory Council for Students with Disabilities to the Board of Regents and as Vice President of Delta Alpha Pi Disability Honor Society. Shortly after graduation, Melanie worked as a Research and Training Associate at the National Center for START Services. In her current role, she and her team work to ensure the voices and perspectives of young people are included in all policy and program areas of OMH.

[Meet the Panelist](#)



**Justice Walcott**

Justice Walcott, the daughter of Jamaican immigrant parents, is a passionate and driven young scholar with an unwavering commitment to empowering underserved and marginalized communities. Her upbringing in such a community, combined with her personal experiences navigating mental health, healthcare, immigration, and education, sparked her deep passion for promoting diversity, inclusivity, and social equity. Justice is determined to ensure that all youth, no matter their background, have the resources and opportunities they need to thrive. Justice discovered a powerful calling in guiding youth leaders and building dynamic, high-performing teams that work in harmony to uplift their communities. Creating environments where individuals complement each other's strengths has become one of her greatest passions. She believes the power of community lies in the people who lead and support it and she is dedicated to equipping those who advocate for change with the tools and resources they need to succeed. Rooted in the belief that "Each one, teach one," Justice envisions a world where communities of advocates, supported by mutual courage and understanding, can drive lasting change for themselves and those around them fueled by the incredible strength in our differences, and that these stories have the power to shape a more inclusive, compassionate world.

[Meet the Panelist](#)



**Jeremy Reuling**

Jeremy Reuling, LCSW, NYCPS, has more than 20 years of experience working to support and empower people facing societal and systemic injustice. He is the Senior Director of Special Projects at Hands Across Long Island (HALI). Jeremy serves on the Board of Directors for the Alliance for Rights and Recovery, as a member of PeerTAC's Advisory Committee, and on the Advisory Board for Utica University's MSW program. Jeremy presents regularly at conferences and events regionally and nationally.

[Meet the Panelist](#)



**Moderator: Amy Piroli**

Amy Piroli has consistently demonstrated a dedication to improving the lives of families and individuals facing mental health challenges. At NYU McSilver, Amy is the Co-Director of Peer Support Training in support of the PeerTAC project. With a deep-rooted commitment to empowering families and ensuring that their voices are heard, Amy is a dedicated professional who has spent years working at the intersection of mental health, child welfare, and family support. Previously, Amy served as the Family Peer Engagement Specialist in support of NYS Office of Mental Health's System of Care Project. In that role, Amy collaborated with state agencies and organizations to advance family-centered care, providing training and technical assistance.

# Workshops Day 2

SESSION 3: 10:30-11:30 AM



## GENERATIONS TRACK

### Meet the PeerTAC Partner Experts: The People Behind Youth Power

**Presenter:** Justice Walcott

In this session, attendees will be able to explore the various interpersonal dimensions of building trust and effective support as a Youth Peer Advocate (YPA) peer supervisor. Participants will take a look at understanding the importance of trust, identifying barriers to building trust, and honoring effective support. Attendees will walk away with an understanding that support will look different for all of their team members and actionable steps to lead to a stronger more productive team.



## INSPIRATIONS TRACK

### Supervision Through the Looking Glass of Trauma: How to See and Respond to Trauma in the Workplace

**Presenters:** Liz Breier, MA, NYCPS-P, Regina Shoen, NYCPS, FPA-C

In this eye-opening session, participants explore many facets of the world of trauma and trauma-informed supports and services. Trauma-informed supervision often centers around the trauma of the peer staff. However, being trauma responsive requires deep reflection throughout the organization that all staff (including us as supervisors) have past histories that influence current interpersonal dynamics. This session will provide opportunities to discuss trauma through the looking glass – with an opportunity to pause and reflect on trauma, and how to create a healing environment for all.



## INNOVATIONS TRACK

### Unlocking Peer Support Potential

**Presenters:** Bruce Huffman, Jordan Young

In this session, the focus is on enhancing peer support effectiveness. It will cover the definition and benefits of peer support, skills for active listening and empathy, and strategies for empowerment and advocacy. Participants will learn about fostering inclusivity, collaborating with mental health professionals, and self-care for peer supporters. The goal is to build confidence among peer supporters, promote a culture of advocacy, and strengthen collaboration within the mental health community.



## COLLABORATIONS TRACK

### Authentic and Strengthening Peer Support Supervision and Collaborative Practices

**Presenters:** Kevin Smith, Cathie Campbell, Robert Brandon

In this session, three supervisors who identify as peers themselves, describe providing supervision to peer support staff on a daily basis. Supervising peer support staff is vital and essential for the highest quality of care to members they serve. Our success is by being authentic and supportive of peer staff needs so they are successful in supporting members throughout the community.



## TRANSFORMATIONS TRACK

### To Keep Fidelity of Peers Services, Peer Supervision is a Must

**Presenter:** Tammy Bush, BA, NYCPS, CPMC

In this session, you will recognize the importance of a peer supervisor being highly knowledgeable and/or highly experienced in the peer service model, the history of the movement, and the needs of the peer specialists they supervise. The presenter will tell the story of her first peer job and how she failed and became burned out, how she discovered the mental health peer service model, and her experience with the movement.

# Workshops Day 2

SESSION 4: 11:45 AM-12:45 PM



## GENERATIONS TRACK

### How to Supervise in Integrated Peer Support as a Trauma Survivor

**Presenters:** Nicole K. Collins-Rivera, Javeere Sancho-Collins, Maurice McDowell, Meghann Simpson, YPA. DV, IPV, & HT Peer Advocate

In this session you will delve into the importance of understanding trauma and its impact on both the peer support workers and the supervisors. It examines how lived experiences of trauma can shape the perspectives, strengths, and challenges of those providing peer support services. We will also address strategies for aligning trauma-informed supervision practices with the core values and goals of peer support, such as empowerment, mutual respect, and the use of shared experiences.



## INSPIRATIONS TRACK

### Personal Reflections on Becoming Peer Supervisors

**Presenters:** Laura Rhymer, Amber Rivers

In this session, Laura Rhymer and Amber Rivers, the Directors of Howie the Harp and the Adult Home Peer Bridger programs at Community Access will share stories of their trajectories from direct service peer roles to supervisors of peers. The workshop will use specific stories of their successes and challenges to reflect on key skills needed to both move upwards to supervision as a peer, and how best to supervise other peer workers.



## INNOVATIONS TRACK

### Authentic Supervision that Honors Uniqueness

**Presenter:** Natalie Lleras, LCSW, CPRP, SIFI

In this session, you will explore the notion that every one of us brings a gift to this work, a lived experience, a skill or strength. What if the basis of the team dynamic was to highlight these unique qualities and align the people with the responsibilities that honored those gifts? Please join this session to learn more about psychological safety and how to optimize the differences in your team in a way that can make each individual feel seen and valued. It is in these differences that teams can find hope and purpose, two necessities in the field.



## COLLABORATIONS TRACK

### How to Implement Co-Reflection Peer Support Supervision

**Presenter:** Ann Kasper, MA, CPSS

In this session, you will be able to explore and practice non-hierarchical co-reflection supervisory skills based on the Intentional Peer Support (IPS) guiding principles. This is a modern method of mutual-based supervision. The participants will learn how all parties utilizing co-reflection are invited to come from curiosity, consider the various world views, work in the present, and mutually co-create an environment in which all involved can be empowered and personally developing facing any situation.



## TRANSFORMATIONS TRACK

### The Role of Statewide Program Management and its Impact on Peer Supervision in the Community

**Presenter:** Em Wasserman, NYCPS

In this session, you will explore how peer supervision can look different from program to program and is heavily influenced by program guidance handed down by the state. We will aim to understand the relationship between statewide program management and the community provider, discuss the management process, and explore how trusting relationships between these roles can create feedback loops to positively impact peer supervision in the community.



# Workshops Day 2

SESSION 5: 1:30-3:30 PM



## GENERATIONS TRACK

### Elevating Peer Support Supervision: Crafting a Collective Vision for Growth and Empowerment

**Presenters:** Cathy S. Kent YPA-C, FPA-C, Jennifer Fuchs CFPS, FPA-C, Ina Concepcion, FDC, FPAC, PEP

In this transformative panel discussion, we will focus on creating a shared vision for supervision of peer support. In a time when mental health and recovery support are paramount, peer support professionals have emerged as essential figures in fostering resilience and healing within communities. This panel seeks to unite diverse voices and experiences, culminating in an engaging and impactful presentation that embodies the inspirational message of a collective vision.



## INSPIRATIONS TRACK

### Did They Say That? Yes They Did: Dealing with Microaggressions in Supervision

**Presenter:** Jonathan P. Edwards, PhD, CPRP

In this thought-provoking session, you will explore how supervision can be a gnarly process. In addition to inherent power differentials, intersecting cultural and socioeconomic factors impact relationships. Despite the best of intentions, we may make hurtful and marginalizing comments. Unrecognized or unacknowledged microaggressions often create barriers in supervision and consequently affect how we do our jobs. This session will offer a lively demonstration of various communication styles and provide interactive opportunities for participants.



## INNOVATIONS TRACK

### Meet the Experts: The People Behind the Tools for Organizational Transformation

**Presenters:** Yvette Kelly, LMHC, Marie Vogel, Amy B. Spagnolo, PhD, Maria Fuentes, FPA-C, Lydia Franco, PhD, LMSW, TJ Curtis, FPA-C, Anne Kuppinger, M.Ed.

In the first part of this interactive session, members of the PeerTAC team share portions of their journeys within the mental health system that led them to become agents of system change. The first half of this session will include information about and a hands-on exercise with the PeerTAC Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA), which was designed as an educational tool for supervisors and operations staff to use in recognizing exemplary practices for the organizations to strive to achieve for successful inclusion of peer support services. Supervisors of Family Peer Advocates (FPA) and Youth Peer Advocate (YPA) will also be able to try out online self-reflection tools for learning how well their current practices align with established peer support values and practices.

### Meet the PeerTAC Experts: The People Behind the Peer Specialists Supervision Guide for MHOTRS Clinics and the APS Supervision Specialization Track

**Presenters:** Joanne Forbes, PhD, CPRP, Lynnae Brown

In this second half of the interactive workshop, Joanne Forbes, PhD, author and researcher who developed the PeerTAC Supervision of Peer Support Specialists Guide for MHOTRS programs will be joined by Lynnae Brown, former director of the Howie the Harp Peer Advocacy Center and subject matter expert for the Supervision Specialization Track for the Academy of Peer Services. They reflect their individual journeys into and through the mental health system, their experiences in training, supervising, and research and what they've learned on their quests for excellence in the supervision of peer support staff.



## COLLABORATIONS TRACK

### Community Partnerships: How Can Peer Run Organizations Support Peer Services in Provider Agencies

**Presenters:** Jeremy Reuling, LCSW, NYCPS, Aviva Cohen, LMSW, NYCPS-P, Alexis Jinks, Paula Tusiani-Eng, LMSW, M.Div., Krista Whitman, MBA, LCSW-R, CASAC

In this session, you will learn how peer-run organizations have a deep, unmatched expertise on peer services, the workforce's needs, and effective service delivery. Staff from Hands Across Long Island (HALI), a peer-run agency, along with staff from three community organizations, will share how they have partnered to strengthen peer services. Presenters will share how practices such as Co-supervision and Peer-Informed Program Evaluation have enhanced services for recipients and job satisfaction for peer staff.



## TRANSFORMATIONS TRACK

### Supervising Peer Supporters in Maintaining Values, Ethics and Boundaries

**Presenter:** Ellen Healion, MA

In this session, attendees will engage in an in-depth discussion of supervising peers in values, ethics, and boundaries. This presentation will be conducted in two parts. The first part will examine the influence of values and the understanding of the ethics of Peer Supporters. The second part will be a deep-dive on boundaries between peer specialists/advocates and the people they serve with a focus on the education, evaluation and counseling provided to peer staff.

**3:30-4:00 PM**  
**Closing Session**





**The Alliance  
for Rights  
and Recovery**  
Formerly NYAPRS

**The Alliance for Rights and Recovery**, formerly NYAPRS, is a state and national change agent dedicated to improving services, public policies, and social conditions for people with mental health, substance use, and trauma-related challenges, by promoting health, wellness, recovery, with full community inclusion, so that all may achieve maximum potential in communities of choice.

Join us for our 21st Annual Executive Seminar on April 24-25 at the Wolf Road Marriott in Albany, NY!

Topics Include: Workforce Development, Leadership, Peer Services and Medicaid, 1115 Waiver Opportunities, and more!

**Register**

Visit our website: [rightsandrecovery.org/](https://rightsandrecovery.org/)

System Transformation Training: [rightsandrecovery.org/transformation-training/](https://rightsandrecovery.org/transformation-training/)

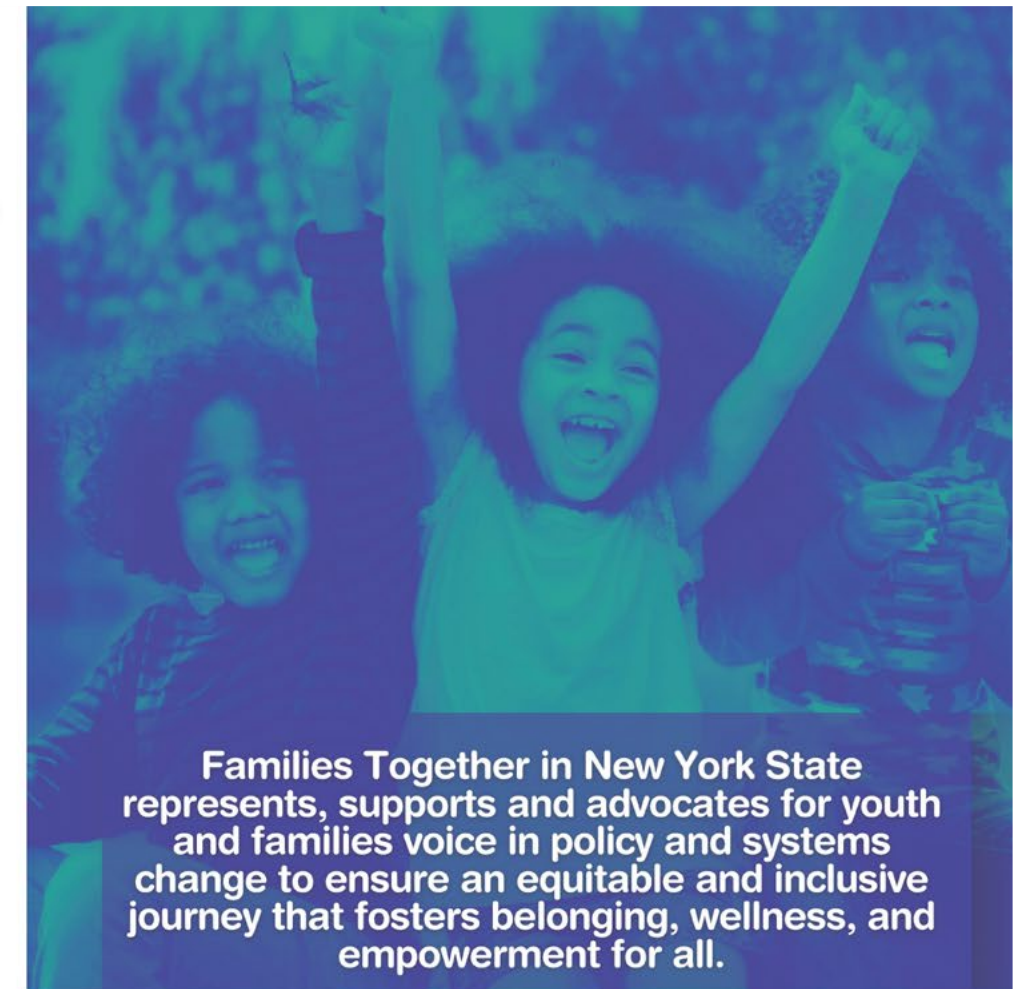
**Families  
Together**  
in New York State

**WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT**

**FOLLOW US!**

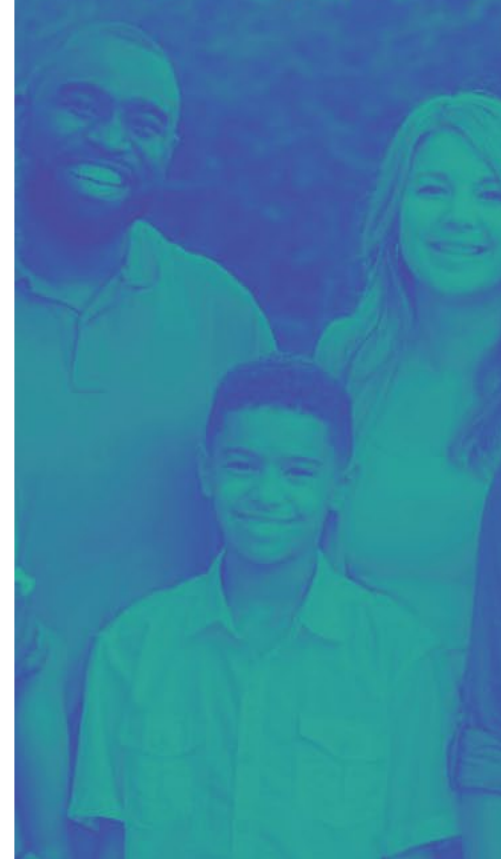


@ftnys



Families Together in New York State represents, supports and advocates for youth and families voice in policy and systems change to ensure an equitable and inclusive journey that fosters belonging, wellness, and empowerment for all.

**Empowering Families.  
Coordinating Systems.**



The Department of Workforce Development oversees training and credentialing for Family and Youth Peer Advocates in New York State. Technical assistance is available for anyone interested in learning more about the credentials.

FPA's and YPA's are a workforce that makes a difference!

Learn more at

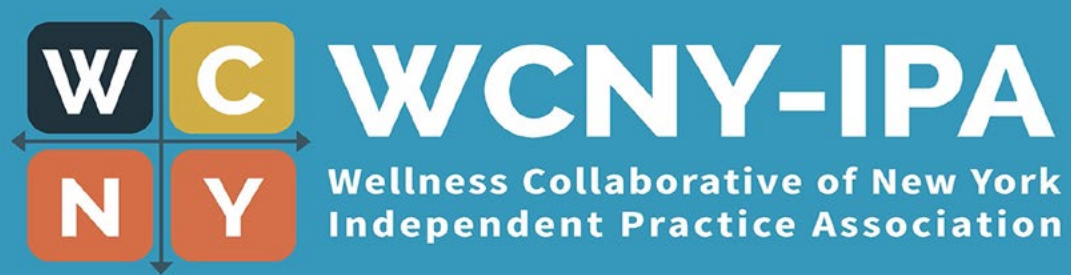
[www.ftnys.org/workforce](https://www.ftnys.org/workforce)



[FPAcredential@ftnys.org](mailto:FPAcredential@ftnys.org)  
[YPAcredential@ftnys.org](mailto:YPAcredential@ftnys.org)

737 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

[www.ftnys.org](https://www.ftnys.org) (518) 432-0333 x 18



WHERE  
**PEER SUPPORT**  
COMES TOGETHER

**Statewide network of  
genuine peer and family  
run organizations.**

- Training and technical assistance
- Best practices for peer support
- Collaboration & capacity building programs
- Referral network to field experts
- Transitional, crisis diversion & wellness services
- Community connection at ground level

**IPA MEMBERS**



# Organizational Partners



## In-Person Supervision Regional Intensives Feb-March 2025!

This one-day learning intensive workshop is designed to provide supervisors with the knowledge and skills to enhance their capacity to support peer advocates/specialists in providing effective services that best meet the needs of the people they serve and in alignment with peer support principles. The benefits of effective supervision include improved quality of care, a more engaged workforce, improved productivity, a more effective team, and reductions in costly turnover.

Registration is required and space is limited. Applicants should be current supervisors of Youth Peer Advocates, Family Peer Advocates, and/or Adult Peer Specialists working at NYS OMH licensed mental health programs. Soon to be supervisors of peer advocates/specialists are also welcome to apply. Applications will be reviewed on a first come, first serve basis.

There are still spots left for Saratoga and Rochester! Please submit your application as soon as possible and no later than **February 3rd, 2025** to determine eligibility.

Application Link: [bit.ly/4f3dhBs](https://bit.ly/4f3dhBs)

**New York City**  
February 11, 2025  
NYU Kimmel Center **FULL!**

**Long Island**  
February 13, 2025  
Huntington Hilton **FULL!**

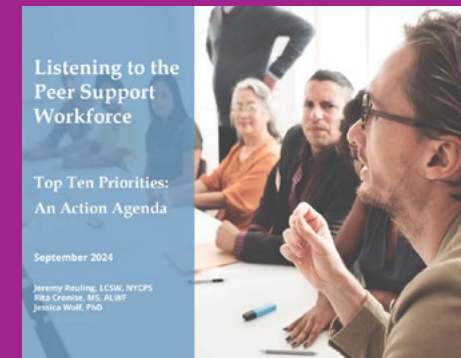
**Saratoga**  
February 24, 2025  
Saratoga Hilton **SPOTS LEFT!**

**Rochester**  
March 5, 2025  
Memorial Art Gallery **SPOTS LEFT**

## Recordings & Resources

Watch for recordings, presentation slides, chat transcripts, and presenter resources from the Supervision Summit to be posted on a web page shortly after the Summit. For more information, [click here](#).

Recordings and Resources from the Supervision Summit will also be searchable in the PeerTAC Resource library.



### Listening to the Peer Support Workforce

"Listening to the Peer Support Workforce - Top Ten Priorities: An Action Agenda," is a participatory action project by Jeremy Reuling, Rita Cronise, and Jessica Wolf developed over 7 years of gathering input at peer conferences and listening sessions. As an educational resource, it identifies ten challenges faced by the workforce and provides a series of practical actions that can be taken by four stakeholder groups: peer specialists/advocates, supervisors, service providers and administrators/policymakers toward addressing these persistent workforce priorities.

*Developed independently over seven years by researchers who are on staff and the advisory council of PeerTAC, the resource is hosted by Temple University Collaborative for Community Inclusion and endorsed by the Alliance for Rights and Recovery, the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association, and Pat Deegan Associates.*

To check out this resource, [click here](#).

Please join the PeerTAC list serv for the most up-to-date information [here](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at [info@peertac.org](mailto:info@peertac.org)

## Continuing Education Units Available

Sessions are approved for continuing education (CE) hours for CPRP, LMSW, LCSW, LMHS, and NYS Peer Certification.

### **All Summit Round Table, Panel session, and Workshops are eligible for CE credit.**

- Opening Sessions are eligible for 1.25 CE hour
- Workshops are eligible for 1 or 2 CE hour(s)

To receive a Certificate of Attendance that can be submitted for CE credit, you must be registered for one or both days of the Summit, attend the full opening session or workshops for which you are seeking CE credit, and complete an evaluation for each session you attend.

The workshop evaluation will be provided during the session.

Please Note that only listening to the webinar on the phone without entering the virtual room does not meet the requirements to receive CEs.

The Alliance/PeerTAC will not be able to provide CEs to webinar registrants who only participate via the phone. Additionally, in order to receive CEs, you must complete the course evaluation within 48 hours of receipt. The Alliance/PeerTAC will NOT be able to provide any webinar participant with CEs if we receive the evaluation more than 48 hours from its dissemination.

Certificates will be sent via email within 45 days of the event.

## Acknowledgments

PeerTAC gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the New York State Office of Mental Health and its primary partners, The Alliance for Rights and Recovery (formerly NYAPRS), Wellness Collaborative of New York, Independent Practice Association (WCNY-IPA), Center for Practice Innovations, National Association of Peer Supporters (N.A.P.S.) New York Peer Advancement Network (NYPAN), and Families Together in NYS.

### **COORDINATING TEAM:**

Rita Cronise (Rutgers), Amy Piroli (NYU/McSilver), Lydia Franco (NYU/McSilver), Conner McCallum (NYU/McSilver), Angelique Rodriguez (NYU/McSilver), Michelle Longmore (Rutgers/APS), Meredith Bell Franczak (Rutgers/APS), Marie Vogel (Rutgers/APS), Len Statham (Alliance for Rights and Recovery), Eileen Crosby (Alliance for Rights and Recovery), Daniella Labate (Alliance for Rights and Recovery), Shae Pasko (Alliance for Rights and Recovery) Joanne Forbes (Rutgers/APS), Shannon Higbee (Wellness Collaborative of New York, IPA), TJ Curtis (Families Together in NYS and NYPAN), Jay Culkin (Families Together in NYS), Carrie Ann Rollier (Families Together in NYS)

### **SELECTION COMMITTEE:**

Marlo Pasion (InUnityAlliance), Stephen Nawotniak (Alliance for Rights and Recovery), Len Statham (Alliance for Rights and Recovery), Maria Fuentes (NYU/McSilver), Jay Culkin (Families Together in NYS), Meghann Simpson (Families Together in NYS), Amy Piroli (NYU/McSilver), Jeremy Reuling (HALI), Rebecca Evansky (WCNY IPA), Robbie Lettieri (OMH OAPSS), Lori Ashcraft (Crestwood RRS), Joanne Forbes (Rutgers Consultant) Gita Enders (NYC H+H), Veronica Weider (Alliance Consultant), Rita Cronise (Rutgers/APS), Marie Vogel (Rutgers/APS)