



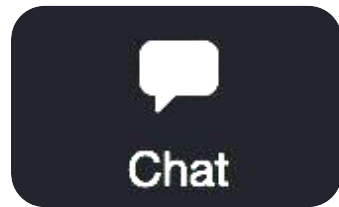
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# *Peer Recovery Support Services in Tribal Communities*

*November 13, 2024 | Presented by:*

The National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College

Altarum



This project was supported by Grant No. 15BJA-23-GK-05388-COAP and Grant No. 15PBJA-23-GK-02260-COAP awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

# Today's Presenters and Panel



**Caley Small**  
Tribal TA Specialist,  
BJA COSSUP TTA Center  
for Access and Recovery



**Chris Lobanov-  
Rostovsky**  
Associate,  
NCJTC



**Kevin Poleyumptewa**  
Project Coordinator,  
NCJTC



**Sunny Duran**  
Program Director,  
White Buffalo  
Recovery Center



**Bobby Dorton**  
Reentry Manager,  
Tanana Chiefs  
Conference

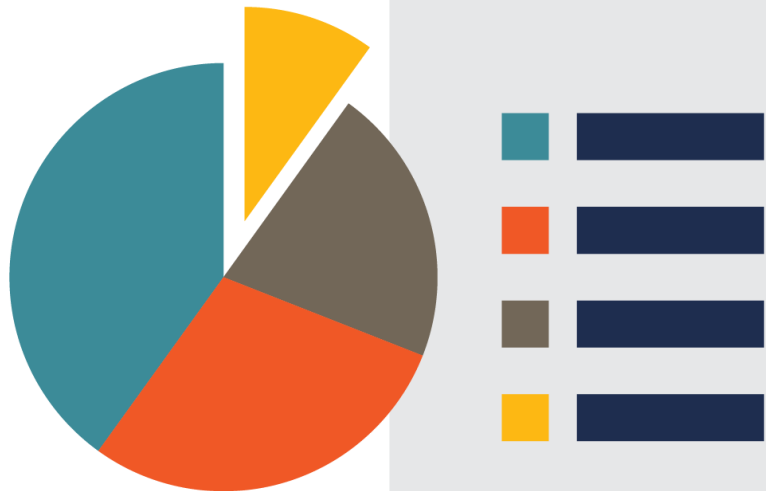


**Peter Wilson**  
Community Outreach  
Specialist  
Seneca Strong





# POLL



## Which of the following best describes your role?

- Tribal Court Official
- Law Enforcement
- Peer Recovery Specialist
- Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse Treatment
- Other

# Learning Objectives



Discuss the value of peer recovery support services (PRSS) to enhance substance use recovery



Explore the history of peer support as an effective intervention for tribal populations



Engage in peer exchange with tribal representatives who have implemented peer support

# Culturally Responsive Pathways to Peer Programming in Tribal Communities

New resource

# Peer Support Defined

- Peer-based recovery supports (P-BRS)
- Peer recovery support services (PRSS)
- Peer mentorship
- Tribal members with lived experience and expertise, and who have successfully achieved recovery from addiction
- Gains buy-in
- Reduces stigma

# History of Peer Support Services in Tribal Communities

- 275 year history
  - Talking circles
  - Sweat lodges
  - Other cultural events and activities
- “Wounded healer” tradition
  - Tribal member who has a personal experience of illness, trauma, or substance use
  - Offers support to others who are experiencing a similar journey

# Response

- Recovery Mutual-Aid Movement Response
  - Lack of programs, Ineffectiveness, Lack of resources and funding
- Native American Community Responses to Alcohol Problems
  - 1799 – Handsome Lake
  - 1805-1830 – Indian Prophet Movements
  - 1882 – Indian Shaker Church
  - 1918 – AI/AN Church
  - Red Road
  - Wellbriety

# Rejection of Western Interventions

- Western models of criminal justice and mental health
- Colonization
- Ineffective
- Lack of cultural values and responsiveness
- Intergenerational and historical trauma

# Peer Recovery Support Services

The BJA COSSUP Access and  
Recovery TTA Center

**Caley Small, Tribal TA Specialist**





# Criminal Justice Involvement, Substance Use, and Peer Support

- The criminal justice population has a disproportionately high rate of substance use disorders (as well as co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders) compared with the general population.
- Peer recovery support services (PRSS) have emerged as important resources for engaging and supporting criminal justice-involved individuals and their families in their recovery.

# Overview: Peer Recovery Support Services (PRSS)

- **Peer recovery support services (PRSS)** refers to the wide-array of non-clinical supports provided by peer practitioners (also referred to as peer specialists).



**Emotional**



**Informational**



**Affiliational**



**Instrumental**

# Peer Recovery Support Services (PRSS)

## Recovery happens in community.

- Ready-made pro-social environment
- Focus on building trusting *relationships*
- Use recovery community resources and assets
- Provide a variety of models of the benefits and expectations of a life in recovery

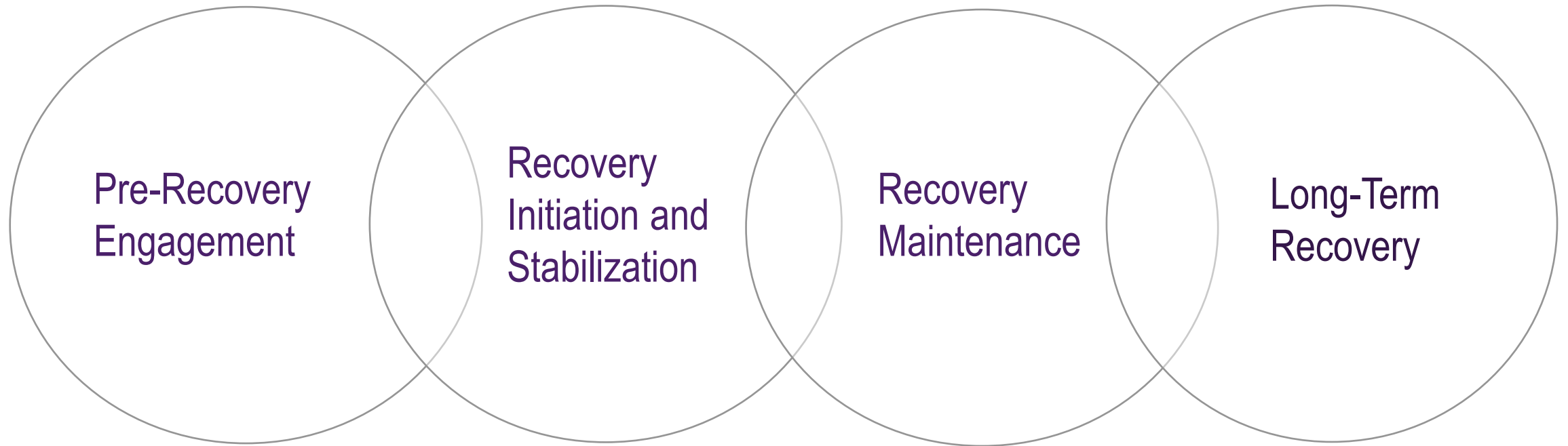


# PRSS create, build, reinforce, and strengthen Recovery Capital

- In assisting people to achieve their recovery goals, it is often useful to help them assess and build their **Recovery Capital**
- **Recovery Capital** is the sum of the strengths and supports—both internal and external—that are available to help someone initiate and sustain long-term recovery from addiction

(Granfield and Cloud, 1999, 2004; White, 2006)

# PRSS engage individuals across the time span of recovery— and keep them engaged



Adapted from William White

# Access and Recovery TTA Center

- Developing tools that assist staff to effectively integrate PRSS in criminal justice settings
- Facilitating program-to-program sharing of evidence-supported services, best practices, and promising approaches
- Consulting with individual programs to strengthen operations, by identifying and solving challenges to program success.

# Access and Recovery TTA Center

## Areas of Focus

### Resources

- Staffing levels, caseload, service array, physical space, technology

### Infrastructure

- Written policies and procedure, communication tools, organizational structure

### Organizational Learning

- Practice knowledge, staff training, coaching
- Communication and multi-disciplinary collaboration
- Performance measurement, reporting, and evaluation

### Organizational Culture & Climate

- Shared beliefs and vision
- Conflict resolution and trust
- Commitment to change

### Engagement & Partnership

- Within the Agency, with other organizations, and with communities
- Leadership – including leading change

# Access and Recovery TTA Center

In-Person and Virtual  
Consultation

Training and Facilitation

Capacity Building

Thought Leadership



# Peer Recovery Support Services Mentoring Initiative (PRSSMI)

- The purpose of PRSSMI is to advance the inclusion of peer recovery support services in jurisdictions' portfolios of substance abuse intervention and treatment strategies.
- More information and to apply:  
<https://www.cossup.org/Learn/PeerToPeer/PRSSMI>

# Capacity Building Focus

## Engagement & Partnership

- Strategic relationship building and partnerships within the wide organization, with other organizations, and with communities

## Organizational Culture & Climate

- Purpose, vision, and shared beliefs supportive of peer practice
- Organizational readiness for supporting peer practice

## Organizational Learning

- Peer practice knowledge and awareness among all staff
- Training, coaching, and development for peer staff
- Communication and multi-disciplinary collaboration in support of goals

## Infrastructure

- Written policies and procedures that provide structure and support for PRSS
- Supervision processes and protocols

## Resources

- Appropriate staffing levels
- Depth, breadth, and scope of peer support menu
- Arrangement of physical space and use of technology in support of recovery

# Role of Mentor Sites

- Participants are matched to an experienced “mentor site” program that provides consultation and support through virtual learning sessions and an on-site visit.
- Mentor sites are experienced collaborators with first responders, law enforcement, courts, jails, prisons, and community corrections to help people suffering from substance use disorder to achieve and maintain recovery from addiction.

# Mentee Sites

Applications accepted on rolling basis, with following criteria:

- Stage of program development — planning, start-up, or early implementation
- Diversity of team
- Clarity and appropriateness of outcomes sought through peer program
- Clarity and appropriateness of goals for mentorship

# Tribal PRSS Presenters

# White Buffalo Recovery Center



**Sunny Duran**

*Program Director,*

White Buffalo Recovery Center,

Northern Arapaho Tribe

[sunny.duran@whitebuffalorecovery.org](mailto:sunny.duran@whitebuffalorecovery.org)

# Tanana Chiefs Conference



**Bobby Dorton**

*Re-entry Manager*

Tribal Government and Justice

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)

[robert.dorton@tananachiefs.org](mailto:robert.dorton@tananachiefs.org)



# Peer Support in Rural and Urban Alaska

Bobby Dorton,  
Peer Support Specialist





My most tremendous success is being a member of the Peer Support Advisory Board, which focuses on helping peers get certified through the Alaska Commission for Behavioral Health, where I am now serving as a commissioner. In addition, I serve on the statewide Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the Alaska Mental Health Board.

# What is Peer Support?

Effective peer support is an exchange of philosophies and brainstorming to identify courses of action, choices, and opportunities. It's walking alongside another as they travel a personal and individual journey of accomplishment. It's individualized because each person has their own path to follow. Peer Support is not offering advice (though ideas are shared), it is not telling another what they have to do, nor is it counseling or therapy. Peer Support maintains *five* factors:

- **Hope** (seeing a better future).
- **Shared Responsibility** (we are not alone).
- **Education** (continuing).
- **Self-Advocacy** (sharing our story).
- **Support** (offering help until it's not needed, and giving back).



# The Importance of Case Managers Working with Peer Support Specialists



- Case managers help with navigating systems, accessing services, more.
- Peer Support Specialists walk alongside the client helping them find their way.

# Sharing Lived Experience: We Keep What We Have by Giving it Away

- Everyone has a superhero inside of them. Peer support is helping them find their superhero.
- The gift of helping others—the more you give the more you get.





## Connection with Supports: Asking for Help is a Strength

- Finding my higher power after being spiritually bankrupt.
- The importance of attending 12-step meetings.

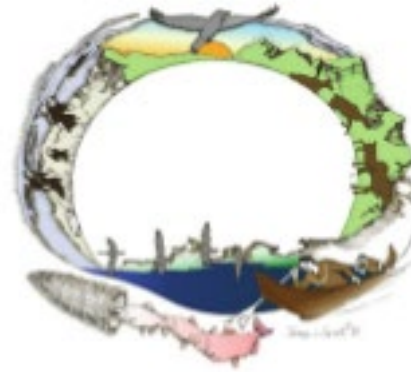
# People Can Change!



# What's Ahead for Peer Support?

- Continue Peer Support Certification
- Peer-Led Supportive Housing and Employment
- Traditional Peer Support
- Peer Support Specialists Working Alongside Behavioral Health Aides and other professionals
- Reentry Peer Support and Case Management





# Tanana Chiefs Conference

## **Contact:**

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Phone: 907-371-8395



# Seneca Strong

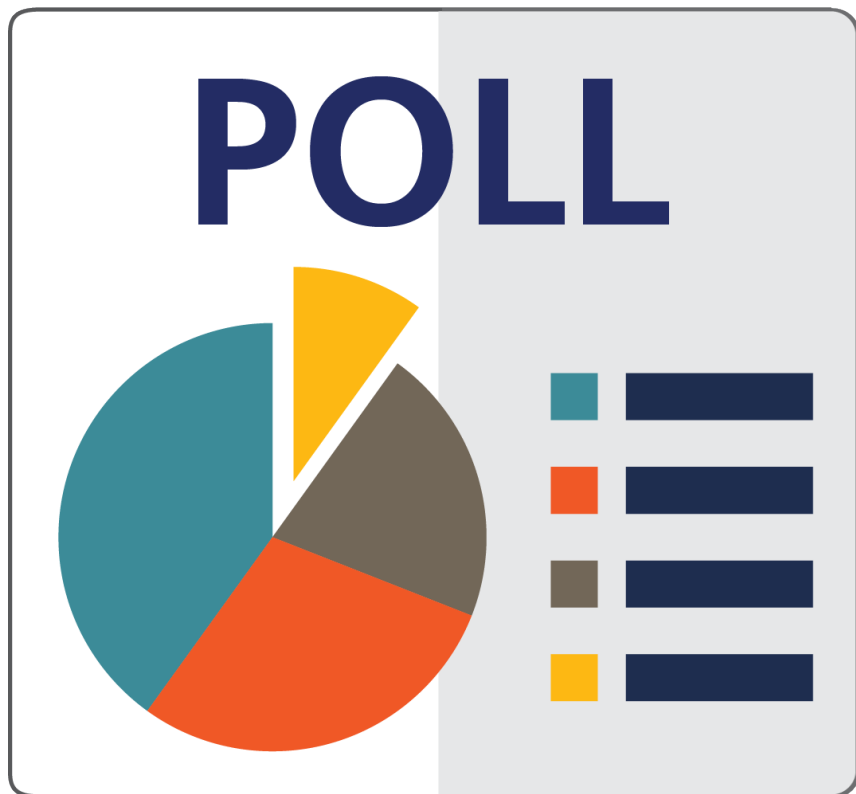


**Peter Wilson**

*Community Outreach Specialist*

Seneca Strong

[pwilson@senecahealth.org](mailto:pwilson@senecahealth.org)



## Does your tribe utilize peer recovery as part of substance use treatment?

- Yes, we have peer recovery specialists providing support to tribal members
- Yes, we have a program but have not fully implemented it yet
- No, we don't have a program but would like to set one up.
- No, we don't have a program and have no current plans for one

# Panel Discussion: Peer Recovery Best Practices

**Kevin Poleyumptewa,**  
Program Coordinator,  
*National Criminal Justice Training Center*

**Caley Small,**  
Tribal TA Specialist,  
*BJA COSSUP Access and Recovery TTA Center*

**Sunny Duran,**  
Program Director,  
*Northern Arapaho Tribe*  
*White Buffalo Recovery Center*

**Bobby Dorton**  
Re-entry Manager,  
Tribal Government and Justice  
*Tanana Chiefs Conference*

**Peter Wilson**  
Community Outreach Specialist,  
*Seneca Strong*

# Tribal PRSS Community Practice (CoP)

- Offers an opportunity for in-depth conversations with other tribes who are implementing or planning to implement a peer recovery support service program.
- Four 90-minute virtual sessions: January – April 2025

# Tribal PRSS Community Practice (CoP) - Eligibility

Ideal participants:

- Are seriously considering implementing a PRSS program  
-OR-
- Are currently implementing a PRSS program  
-OR-
- Are actively developing a PRSS program
  
- **If your Tribe is interested in receiving more information, follow the link in the chat to complete a simple form.**

# Presenters and Panel Contact Information and Final Q & A



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# *Bureau of Justice Assistance's* Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) Resource Center

The screenshot shows the homepage of the COSSUP Resource Center. At the top left is the COSSUP logo with the text 'Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program'. To the right of the logo are navigation links: 'Program', 'Topics', 'Learn', and 'Resource Library'. The main content area features a large background image of a diverse group of smiling people. On the left side of this image, the text reads 'DISCOVER IMPACTFUL RESPONSES TO THE OPIOID CRISIS'. Overlaid on the right side of the image is a dark blue interactive menu with the text 'I want to ...'. Below this text is a white dropdown menu with the option 'Find Learning Opportunities' and a downward arrow. Below the dropdown is a yellow 'Get Started' button. At the bottom right of the image is a white 'Subscribe' button with a blue bell icon. At the bottom of the page, there are two white buttons: 'Site-Based Grants' and 'Request Assistance'.

[www.cossup.org](http://www.cossup.org)



# COSSUP Resources

**Tailored Assistance**—The COSSUP training and technical assistance (TTA) program offers a variety of learning opportunities and assistance to support local, tribal, and state organizations, stakeholders, and projects in building and sustaining multidisciplinary responses to the nation’s substance abuse crisis. ***You do not need to be a COSSUP grantee to request support.*** TTAs are provided in a variety of formats, including virtual and in-person training events, workshop and meeting presentations, and online resources. Request TTA to support your activities at <https://www.cossup.org/Program/TTA/Request>.

**Funding Opportunities**—Current COSSUP and complementary funding opportunities are shared at <https://www.cossup.org/Program/Funding>.

**Join the COSSUP community!** Subscribe now at <https://www.cossup.org/Subscription> to receive information on the latest COSSUP webinars, newsletters, funding opportunities, announcements, and more.



# Upcoming NCJTC Training & Technical Assistance Opportunities

*Watch your inbox and visit [www.ncjtc.org/trasm](http://www.ncjtc.org/trasm) to view upcoming webinars and live online instructor-led trainings.*

# Overdose Fatality Review Forum & Tribal Workgroup

February 11-12, 2025 | Portland, Oregon

The 1 ½ day forum focuses on the advances that Overdose Fatality Reviews (OFRs) and communities have made in collaborating to prevent substance misuse and future overdose deaths.

## *Tribal Workgroup*

The Building Hope for Healing: Exploring Implementation of Overdose Fatality Reviews in Tribal Communities Workgroup will offer tribal communities the opportunity to engage in peer exchange, inform future OFR training and technical assistance specific to tribes, and help shape culturally appropriate OFR resources.

More info and registration: <https://ofrnational2025.vfairs.com/>

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