



## Some of Our 2017 Alcohol Awareness Month Town Hall Meeting Speakers



**Representative Jim O'Day** is the State Representative for the 14<sup>th</sup> Worcester/West Boylston District. He is a graduate of the Worcester Academy and Worcester State University. A social worker by profession, Representative O'Day demonstrates great compassion for all Massachusetts residents including those struggling with substance use disorders.



**Matt Ganem**, is in recovery from heroin addiction, a 2015 **MOAR** Recovery Advocate Awardee. He is turning his words into hope for those still struggling with addiction, wrote The Shadow of an Addict a collection of poetry. Matt is The Massachusetts Banyan Treatment Center Director.



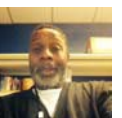
**Jodie A. Nealley** is The Massachusetts Council of Compulsive Gambling Intervention and Recovery Support Coordinator. Jodie previously worked in Higher Education, including positions in Residence Life, Admissions, Academic Advising, and Student Activities. Her life experience, both in and out of the professional arena, provides unique skill sets and insight. Jodie holds a MS in Education.



**Cassandra Andersen** is a Public Health Prevention Specialist with the Worcester Department of Public Health. Her specialties include work with organizations, coalitions, and community members to support the growth of healthy communities using evidence based prevention programs and capacity building.



**Mario Chaparro** is a Recovery Advocate and Coach. Mario is in recovery, and a shining example of hope and possibility. Beyond his own inspirational story, Mario has been a staunch advocate for bringing recovery supports to all communities, especially Latino.



**Doug Lomax is the Boston Public Health Commission Safe and Sound Recovery Center Program Manager.** Safe and Sound Recovery Center is funded by SAMHSA. It provides peer-led recovery support services. These services include recovery coaching & planning, access to peer-led recovery support center, addiction support groups and peer leadership training opportunities. **MOAR** is proud to partner with the center.



**Everyday Miracles Recovery Center, Recovery Connection, and the A.E.D. Foundation are Speaking Out for Addiction Recovery (SOAR)** tonight. **SOAR**, a project of **MOAR**, is funded by SAMHSA with the goal of creating a strong statewide network of Recovery Community Organizations. **SOAR** Director Kirsten Doherty will introduce representatives from the three recovery centers who will speak about innovative peer programs at their centers.

Recovery  
And  
Resiliency

**Bridging The Gap with Youth and Young Adults across mental health and addiction services...**

with PPAL, (Parent Professional Advocacy League), the lead applicant, **MOAR**, and Transformation Center partnering on this SAMHSA Recovery and Resiliency grant.

Our representative is Vesper, a certified peer specialist. Vesper is A-gender, and preferred pronouns are He, She, or They. Vesper is a strong mental health advocate!



**MOAR Recovery Speakers Adam, Karina, and Julie!**



**Rockdale and Ostiguy Recovery High Schools!!!**