



Peaceprints™ of WNY  
660 Smith Street; Buffalo, NY 14210; (716)856-6131  
[www.PeaceprintsWNY.org](http://www.PeaceprintsWNY.org); [info@PeaceprintsWNY.org](mailto:info@PeaceprintsWNY.org)

---

For: Peaceprints of WNY , 660 Smith St., Buffalo, NY 14210  
Contact: Cindi McEachon, Chief Executive Officer (716)856-6131 [cmceachon@peaceprintswny.org](mailto:cmceachon@peaceprintswny.org)

January 28, 2021

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Buffalo Reentry Service Providers Join Together to Elevate Standard of Care**

Erie County, NY— Buffalo has been selected through a nationally-competitive application process to participate in the *Engaging Clients for Successful Reentry Community of Practice*. The collaborative workshops bring together local jurisdiction teams to create coordinated and locally based strategic planning and implementation for individuals reentering the community from incarceration. The ultimate goal of the cohort is to determine optimal ways to implement best practices in Buffalo and define success indicators for a more cohesive care system with an elevated standard of service. The opportunity is made available through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), a branch of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation.

Stakeholders participating in the Buffalo Community of Practice have been engaged to represent the wide array of reentry services and include representatives from the community corrections and supervision system as well as service providers from the areas of reentry, housing, substance abuse treatment, employment, and peer-based recovery. Lead applicant Peaceprints of WNY as well as BestSelf Behavioral Health, Inc., Catholic Charities of Buffalo, the Erie County Sheriff's Office Jail Management Division, and the Erie County Department of Probation are among the organizations that comprise the effort.

"This is an incredible opportunity for the people we serve returning to our community from incarceration," says Lindsey Allen, Director of Reentry Programs at Peaceprints of WNY, "When people are released from prison or jail, they have a whole slew of providers they must coordinate with while trying to rebuild their lives. It's exciting to have all these providers around a table together communicating openly and working to streamline and strengthen the client experience at a holistic level. This collaboration will hold us all accountable to our clients and elevate the standard of care we provide."

The work of the Community of Practice will be facilitated from January through August, 2021 and guided by SAMHSA subject matter experts and is designed to achieve four key objectives among all collaborating entities: (1) enhance collective knowledge of key issues and familiarity with the topic, (2) understand promising, best, and evidence-based practices to address the topic and related issues, (3) develop strategic plans that focus on the issue, including defining assignments, deadlines, and measurable outcomes to be reported and (4) increase knowledge about the challenges and lessons learned in implementing strategies through peer-to-peer sharing via virtual convenings, monthly collaborative calls, and other virtual mechanisms.



Peaceprints™ of WNY  
660 Smith Street; Buffalo, NY 14210; (716)856-6131  
[www.PeaceprintsWNY.org](http://www.PeaceprintsWNY.org); [info@PeaceprintsWNY.org](mailto:info@PeaceprintsWNY.org)

---

###

About Peaceprints of WNY: Since 1985, Peaceprints of WNY has been committed to providing comprehensive reentry services that promote social justice and equity. We recognize that no two individuals are the same, and that circumstances, abilities, and needs of the people we help vary greatly. Services include transitional, supportive and independent housing, intensive case management, youth programming, in-prison workshops and support groups, as well as education and workforce development programs designed to empower and equip returning citizens with the tools necessary to transform their lives and reclaim their stake as contributing members of our community.

