

**ALBANY COUNTY  
PEER AND ADVOCACY SERVICES**

**ALBANY COUNTY CONSUMER ADVOCACY BOARD FOR MENTAL HEALTH, INC. (A.C.C.A..B)**

10 North Russell Road – Westgate Building (Lower Level)  
Albany, NY 12206  
Phone: 518-434-1203  
Fax: 518-434-4881  
E-mail: [lcostanzo70@gmail.com](mailto:lcostanzo70@gmail.com) - Lori Costanzo, Executive Director

Advocacy, linkage to Albany County Services, Self-Help groups, Peer Networking Group, Lending Library, Grievance Procedure and Community Representation.

**\* ACCAB Dual Recovery Anonymous Meeting – Mondays – 6:30 – 7:30 – Danny – 434-1393**

**ALBANY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (A..C.D.M.H.)**

260 S. Pearl Street  
Albany, NY 12202  
Phone: 518-447-4555  
Fax: 518-447-4661  
E-mail: [Vikki.Gates-Williams@albanycounty.com](mailto:Vikki.Gates-Williams@albanycounty.com) - Vikki Gates-Williams, Consumer Affairs Liaison

One to one peer support. Assistance with countywide systems navigation including but not limited to, the Department of Mental Health, Social Services and the Social Security Administration. Assistance with Medicaid Buy- In for Working People with Disabilities, Advance Directives, Wellness Recovery Action Plans, Medicare Part – D, and grievances. Standing member of various committees throughout the county with an emphasis on benefit advisement and community connections.

**CAPITAL AREA PEER SERVICES, INC. (CAPS)**

354 Central Avenue  
Albany, NY 12206  
Phone: 518-427-5056  
Fax: 518-427-5059  
E-mail: [danr@nycaps.org](mailto:danr@nycaps.org) – Dan Reilly, Executive Director

A Consumer Drop-In Center for activities, a meal and resources to navigate the mental health system, a CARELine from 5pm to 1am for telephone calls from individuals who are not in crisis but may need someone to talk to in what would be after hours for most other agencies, a low demand, potentially permanent, Supportive Housing program, Systems Advocacy and Peer Advocates who work in in-patient settings with patients in CDPC, hospitals and connected housing programs.

**\* CAPS – Dual Recovery Anonymous – Mondays 3:00 – 4:00 – Dan – 427-5056**

**CAPITAL DISTRICT CENTER FOR INDEPEDENCE, INC. (C.D.C.I.)**

845 Central Avenue – South 3

Albany, NY 12206

Phone: 518-459-6422

Fax: 518-459-7847

E-mail: [CDCl@web.com](mailto:CDCl@web.com) – Laurel Lei Kelley , Executive Director

Advocacy for people with disabilities, support groups, ramp program, benefits advisement, housing, peer and systemic advocacy. Independent living skills, consumer directed personal assistance services and monthly lunch and learn. CDCI.

**MENTAL HEALTH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT, INC. (M.H.E.P.) The Empowerment Exchange – 235-2173**

21 Colvin Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

Phone: 518-434-1393

Fax: 518-434-3823

E-mail: [amymhep@aol.com](mailto:amymhep@aol.com) - Amy Colesante, Executive Director

The Mental Health Empowerment Project, Inc. (MHEP) is a not-for-profit corporation organized in 1988 to develop and strengthen self-help and mutual support/recovery activities throughout the United States. For twenty-two years MHEP has placed high value on promoting community partnerships and helping people find personal satisfaction through citizenship. As people who have been given a psychiatric diagnosis, the staff of MHEP is in a unique position to mentor others to give back to each other and become active members of their communities. As a recipient of federal, state and local mental health related grants, MHEP is focused on offering skill building activities and education related to self-help, mutual support and recovery; organizing people to create desired change in their communities; creating workshops and skill-building seminars that help individuals find and connect with their personal power, and offering all phases of assistance to establish self-help groups throughout New York State. MHEP also offers Dual Recovery Specialist Services to Albany and Rensselaer County residents.

***\*Albany Public Library “Sisters in Recovery” A Women’s Empowerment Support Group – Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month- Contact Regina – 518-300-9680 or 518-229-4937 or Danny – 434-1383***

**NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION SERVICES (N.Y.A.P.R.S.)**

1 Columbia Street

Albany, NY 12207

Phone: 518-436-0008

Fax: 518-436-0044

Contact: Chacku Mathai - [chackum@nyaprs.org](mailto:chackum@nyaprs.org) – Harvey Rosenthal, Executive Director

Bridger’s Program, Advance Directives, Training collectives such as Nature and the Process of Recovery, Employment Services, Peer-Oriented Services, Healing/Alternative Medicine, Quality Assurance, Rights, Advocacy and Special Needs.