

Meet B Here Today's September 2014 Recovery Carriers

Here we are at the end of Recovery Month and try as I might, I can't determine a single person for this month's Recovery Carrier designee! I've met too many cool people, both online and in person, who are championing the cause of recovery to be able to name one. So, I'm breaking with tradition and bestowing Recovery Carrier status on anyone who keeps the torch of recovery burning.

Today's post is the ninth in this Recovery Carrier series.

William White defines [recovery carriers](#) as “people, usually in recovery, who make recovery infectious to those around them by their openness about their recovery experiences, their quality of life and character, and the compassion they exhibit for those still suffering.” (www.williamwhitepapers.com, 2012)

Daunting but worthwhile task

If we apply Bill White's definition of Recovery Carrier, then the simple act of reading this post and then talking about recovery to anyone (with infectious enthusiasm!), you are a Recovery Carrier. Congratulations! You now belong to a league of people who is clawing its way into the rational thinking of the general public, and by extension, elected officials.

Real change that encompasses a unified voice of recovery, one that speaks the language of hope and possibilities, is our goal. We strive to share our positive voices--all of us who say, "I am a person in long-term recovery," and then share what recovery means for us--with all who care to listen. One day we will be looked upon with the same compassion as are those who deal with diseases like cancer, COPD, diabetes and ALS.

There is always hope.

A collection of Recovery Carriers

Following, in no particular order of importance, are the people and groups who embody the heart and soul of the New Recovery Advocacy Movement. They, along with previous month's Recovery Carriers, forge a solid girder for recovery.

I've forgotten someone, I'm sure, so please include your additions in the comments section below.

1. [Tom Coderre](#) and his appointment as senior advisor to the administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)



2. The announced intent to merge by [Faces & Voices of Recovery](#) and [Young People in Recovery](#)--can you imagine how cool *that* organization will be?
3. Recovery high schools like [Archway Academy](#) in Houston and the brand new [University High School](#) in Austin
4. Greg Williams' ([The Anonymous People](#)) new project, [Generation Found](#)
5. [Michael Botticelli](#), a person in long-term recovery has been nominated by the White House to serve as director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)
6. The second edition, released this summer, of William L. White's [Slaying the Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America](#)
7. Anybody who participated in a [recovery walk/rally](#) (There were almost 1,000 across the nation this year.)
8. The National Alliance for Recovery Residences and the standards it sets for sober living homes
9. Therapists and counselors who strive to find unique ways to work with their patients and families, like [Stephanie Coker](#) and [Lane Ingram](#), who incorporate laughter and improv comedy into their practices
10. My recovery writer colleagues who regular spotlight the phenomenon we call addiction recovery (See Recovery Carriers tab for individual contributions.)
11. Collegiate recovery groups like [Eagle Peer Recovery](#) at the University of North Texas
12. Mindfulness in recovery with the encouragement of yoga, breath work and other tools to engage a holistic approach to recovery
13. Peer-led recovery service organizations and nonprofits like [SoberHood](#), which was recently awarded a multi-year SAMHSA grant to facilitate peer recovery services in Texas.

There you have it, my Lucky 13 List of Recovery Carriers. Please add your own to the list and help make Recovery Month 2014 a sturdy platform on which to build our recovery future.