

# Bridging the Divide Between Healthcare Systems and RCCs: A Moderated Panel Discussion

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5th Town hall style seminar in the NIDA-funded series on recovery community centers (RCCs) and how these RCCs can support persons treated with medications for opioid use disorder

Recovery Seminar on 3/19/21



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# Part of a larger effort

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- NIDA-funded R24 program
- **Goal:** To advance the science on recovery community centers (RCCs) to support persons treated with medications for opioid use disorder
- **Specific Aims:**
  - *Engage RCC stakeholders in research-advancing activities* such as seminars, funding, advisory board meetings, and hands-on support.
    - *RCC stakeholders* = anyone who contributes to or can benefit from the support RCCs can provide
  - *Disseminate tools and products* that facilitate research on RCCs



# Steering Committee Members



The Steering Committee is made up of scientists, clinicians, RCC leadership and persons with lived experience from multiple organizations and institutions from across the US.

## Principal Investigators:



John F.  
Kelly



Bettina B.  
Hoeppe



Robert D.  
Ashford



Patty  
McCarthy



Julia  
Ojeda



Sarah E.  
Wakeman



Brandon  
G.  
Bergman



Lauren A.  
Hoffman



Amy A.  
Mericle

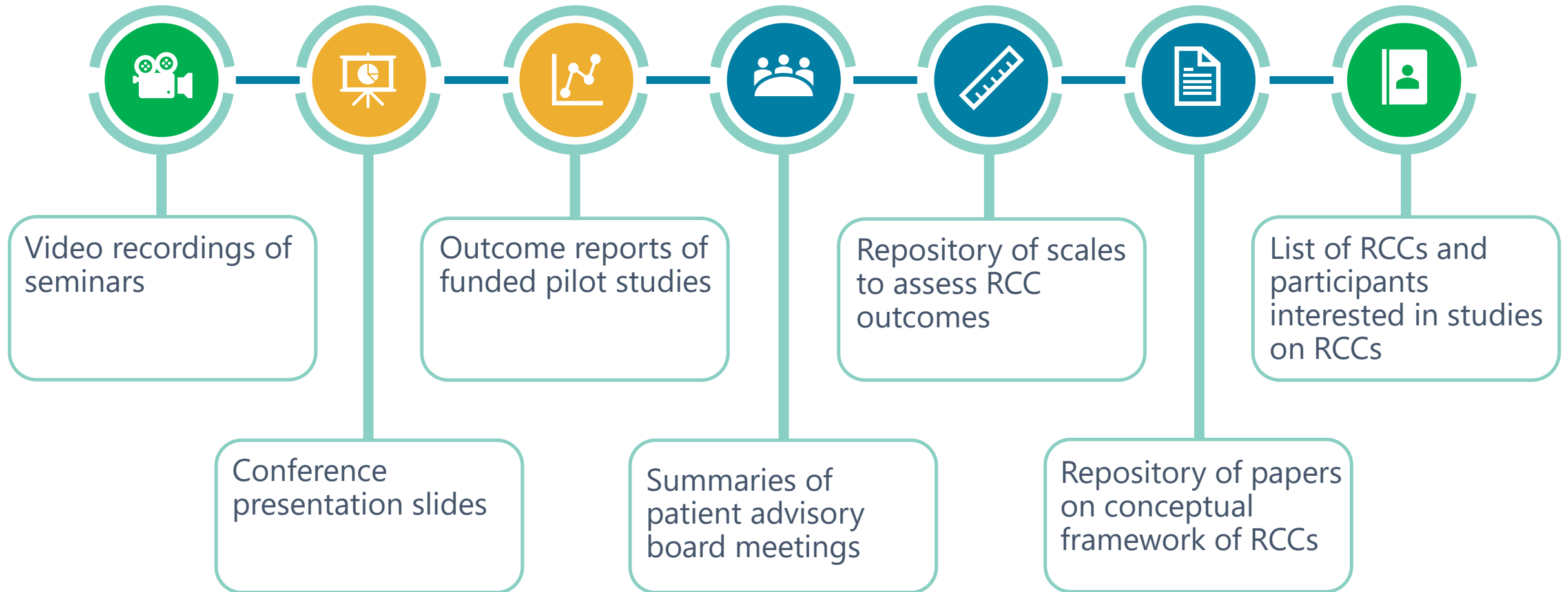


Philip  
Rutherford



# Resources on website:

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# Post-Doctoral Position

- **Postdoctoral Addiction Fellowship in Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care**
- Two-year fellowship to commence in the summer/fall 2021
- The fellow will be involved in all R24 activities activities (e.g., participate in the monthly seminar series, participate in Steering Committee meetings, and become involved in providing technical assistance to RCC personnel) while advancing their own line of research through manuscript preparation, professional network building, and grant writing.
- Primary mentors for this position are Dr. John Kelly and Dr. Bettina Hoeppepner



More information: <https://www.recoveryanswers.org/addiction-research-summaries/post-doctoral-position/>



# Funding for Pilot Studies

## OVERVIEW:

This pilot study mechanism is funded by an R24 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (R24DA051988).

The goal of this pilot study mechanism is to stimulate and support new research on delivering recovery support to persons seeking or in recovery from a substance use disorder via recovery community centers and research that advances the science to that end.

## THE AWARD:

- Up to \$30,000 per award
- Approximately 3 awarded per year
- Covers direct costs of the study (e.g., data collection activities, equipment, research assistant support)

## ELIGIBILITY:

- Your proposed project must address the role of recovery community centers in supporting persons who were or who are in or seeking recovery from a substance use disorder or advance the science to this end (including but not limited to: perceptions around MOUDs, linkages from clinical sites to RCCs, etc.). Studies focusing on persons who are or have been maintained on medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) are particularly encouraged.
- You may be a faculty member, research scientist, post-doctoral research scholar or graduate student from any academic or health care institution in the United States. Black, indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) are especially encouraged to apply.
- You must document how you will share your findings (e.g., conference presentations, [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) registration, published papers, etc.) and allow the findings from your pilot work to be shared by the

## Research

[Advancing the Science on Recovery Community Centers](#)

[Funding for Pilot Studies](#)

[Funding for Conference Travel](#)

[Repository of Useful Scales/Measures and Conceptual Papers](#)

[Linkage for Scientists and RCCs](#)

[Hands-On Support](#)

[Seminar Series](#)

[Participate in Research](#)

# Funding for Conference Travel

## OVERVIEW:

These scientific conference travel awards are funded by an R24 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (R24DA051988) to help defray costs of conference registration, travel, and attendance.

The goal of these conference travel awards is to support presentations at national conferences that inform the scientific field about recovery community centers (RCCs) and how they may support persons seeking or in recovery from substance use disorder. We hope that by presenting more information on RCCs to the scientific community, we can stimulate research interest in them. Presentations in diverse scientific fields are encouraged (e.g., psychology, public health, addiction, social work, epidemiology, etc.). Of particular interest are presentations that focus on persons who were or who are being maintained on medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

## THE AWARD:

- \$1000 award (per presentation, with up to four presentations within a single symposium)
- 16 awarded per year
- ~4 awarded per quarter
- Award can be used to cover the cost of conference registration, travel, attendance, or peripherals associated with presenting virtually.

## Research

[Advancing the Science  
Community Centers](#)

[Funding for Pilot Studies](#)

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[Repository of Useful Scientific  
Conceptual Papers](#)

[Linkage for Scientists and](#)

[Hands-On Support](#)

[Seminar Series](#)

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## Travel Award Application

Thank you for your interest in the scientific conference travel award!

The goal of this award is to support presentations at national conferences that inform the scientific field about recovery community centers (RCCs) and how they may support persons using medications for Opioid Use Disorder. We hope that by presenting more information to the scientific field that we can stimulate research interest in diverse scientific communities (psychology, public health, addiction) in recovery support via RCCs.

This conference travel award is funded by an R24 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (R24DA051988) and can help defray costs of conference registration, travel, and attendance. The award is \$1000 per presentation, with up to four presentations within one symposium. Our goal is to fund approximately 16 awards per year, where multiple presentations may be grouped in a single symposium (four per quarter).

To apply, simply complete this survey. You can apply at any time.

To be eligible for the travel award:

- Your conference proposal must address the role of recovery community centers in supporting persons who were or who are being maintained on medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder **or** advance the science to this end. (Including but not limited to: perceptions around MOUDs, linkages from clinical sites to RCCs, etc.)
- You may be a faculty member, research scientist, post-doctoral research scholar or graduate student from any academic or health care institution in the United States. Black, indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) are especially encouraged to apply.
- Proposals that are part of a symposia (i.e., oral presentation) on the topic of recovery community centers for individuals with opioid and other substance use disorders are preferred but not required. Multiple individuals within the same symposia are encouraged to.

We will notify you via email within two months of you submitting your application.

For questions, please contact Hazel Simpson at [recoveryseminars@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:recoveryseminars@mgh.harvard.edu) or the PIs of the R24 directly, Dr. Bettina Hoepfner, at [bhoepfner@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:bhoepfner@mgh.harvard.edu) and Dr. John Kelly at [jkelly11@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:jkelly11@mgh.harvard.edu).

### Logistics

**First name:**

\* must provide value

**Middle initial:**

# Demographic Questions



## Who are you? Check ALL that apply.

- Recovery community center (RCC) participant
- Recovery community center (RCC) staff / leader
- Clinician
- Prescriber (of medications for opioid use disorder)
- Recovery support staff / peer worker / volunteer
- Scientist (including scientists in training)
- Recovery advocate
- Healthcare decision maker (e.g., hospital leadership, department of health, etc.)
- Person with lived experience (regarding recovery)
- None of the above

## What is your gender? Select one.

- Male
- Female
- Other

## Do you identify as Hispanic or Latino?

- No, not Hispanic or Latino
- Yes, Hispanic or Latino

## What is your race? Select ALL that apply.

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White or Caucasian
- Other



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# Polling Questions



**Do you think it would be helpful if healthcare systems told their patients about Recovery Community Centers?**

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

**The barriers that interfere with healthcare systems linking substance use disorder patients with Recovery Community Centers are most likely to be:**

- Lack of knowledge - healthcare systems are largely unaware of Recovery Community Centers and what they can offer
- Concerns about their patients being welcomed - healthcare workers worry that patients taking addiction treatment medications (e.g., buprenorphine/naloxone, "Suboxone") will not be welcomed
- Lack of time - healthcare workers don't have the time to talk about Recovery Community Centers with their patients
- Other barriers



# Christopher Shaw, N.P

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Nursing Director,  
Addictions Consult  
Team



# Gene Lambert, M.D.

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Associate Medical  
Director, Addictions  
Consult Team



# Marti Kane, M.D.

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Clinical Director of the  
Substance Use  
Disorder Initiative



# Windia Rodriguez

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Program Manager,  
Recovery Coaching  
Program



# Davida Schiff, M.D.

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Medical Director of  
the Perinatal  
Substance Use  
Disorder Clinic



# QUESTION 1

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Christopher



What are some of the challenges you have seen patients struggle with in the transition from a healthcare setting to the community?



# QUESTION 2

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Dr. Lambert



Although RCCs exist across Massachusetts, they are not often talked about or even known in medical settings. What do you think are some of the reasons for this gap and barriers to forming more robust connections?

# QUESTION 3

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Dr. Kane



What lessons can we learn about synergistically connecting peer and community-based supports with the healthcare setting for people with addiction?



# QUESTION 4

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Windia



What do you see as the current barriers between building stronger linkages and how can we on either side do better to establish these connections?



# QUESTION 5

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Dr. Schiff



What are the areas that you see as the greatest needs for these young families?



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