

# All Pathways to Recovery Advocacy

Christma Rusch, BS CPSS RC





My Recovery Advocacy Story  
-Ryan Hampton



 [www.RecoveryVoices.com](http://www.RecoveryVoices.com)

# Who we are

**The Recovery Advocacy Project (RAP) is a network of people and organizations across the country advocating for addiction recovery policies. RAP is committed to giving people in recovery, family members, and supporters of recovery the grassroots organizing tools to think and act locally. RAP is working to build a visible and effective constituency in demand of community and public policy based solutions in response to America's long standing addiction crisis.**







# MOBILIZE RECOVERY

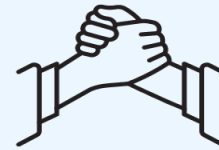
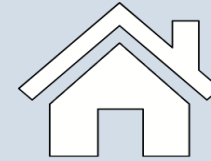
Mobilize Recovery is an initiative of the Recovery Advocacy Project and The Voices Project. Its mission is to expand policy to support recovery, create connections to supportive services that are vital and life-saving, and to engage affected individuals in meaningful civic action. The initiative convenes advocates with lived experience to build capacity for organized civic engagement with new leadership across the country.

# WISCONSIN RAP

# Wisconsin State Platform

## Housing

- Expand access to safe and reliable recovery housing
- Ensure non-discriminatory housing for those using medically assisted treatment pathways



## Support Services

- Remove barriers to peer recovery services
- Expand Family Support Services
- Remove barriers to employment and promote recovery friendly workplaces

## Access to Treatment

- Ensure equal access to life saving medication for all who struggle with substance use disorders
- Ensure accessible and equitable treatment and resources



## Good Samaritan law

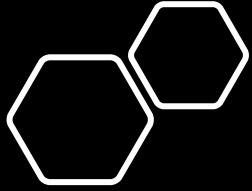
- Expand the 911 Good Samaritan law to continue to save lives in all communities



Endorse by scanning here!



[www.recoveryvoices.com](http://www.recoveryvoices.com)



# What We ARE Doing

Good Morning Organizers,

We need your help today and are asking that you take this important action and reach out to your Governor and Single State Agency (SSA), [urging them to Support a Dedicated Funding Stream for Recovery!](#)

This action is about a once in a lifetime opportunity for the recovery community to have recovery support funded as a key component in addressing America's long-standing addiction crisis.

For the first time in our country's history, there is a powerful recommendation for a 10% Recovery Support Set-Aside in the Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) for 2022.

This funding stream would prioritize recovery support programs and recovery community organizations that provide community-level resources for people with substance use disorder beyond primary prevention and clinical treatment.

[Your voice is urgently needed today to contact your Governor and Single State Agency \(SSA\) to show your support for the millions of Americans in and seeking recovery.](#)

You can use the link below to send a letter directly to your Governor and Single State Agency (SSA).

**YOUR  
VOICE  
MATTERS**

## **Strengthen the Wisconsin 911 Good Samaritan Law!**

**We must restore the immunity protections to aiders who call 911 to save a life during an overdose who are on probation/parole and extended supervision.**

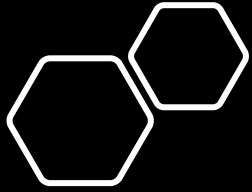
The 911 Good Samaritan Law promotes the calling for emergency services in the event of a medical emergency, including after a drug overdose. Drug overdose is preventable and together we can save more lives if everyone is allowed to call 911 without fear of repercussions including persons currently on probation or parole.

Absolutely no one should face criminal charges for calling to save a life. The current WI Good Samaritan Law excludes persons on probation or extended supervision from immunity protections.

**Together we can change that!**

---





Paradigms



# Paradigms Defined

- a philosophical and theoretical framework of a scientific school or discipline within which theories, laws, and generalizations and the experiments performed in support of them are formulated; *broadly* : a philosophical or theoretical framework of any kind



# Paradigm Theory

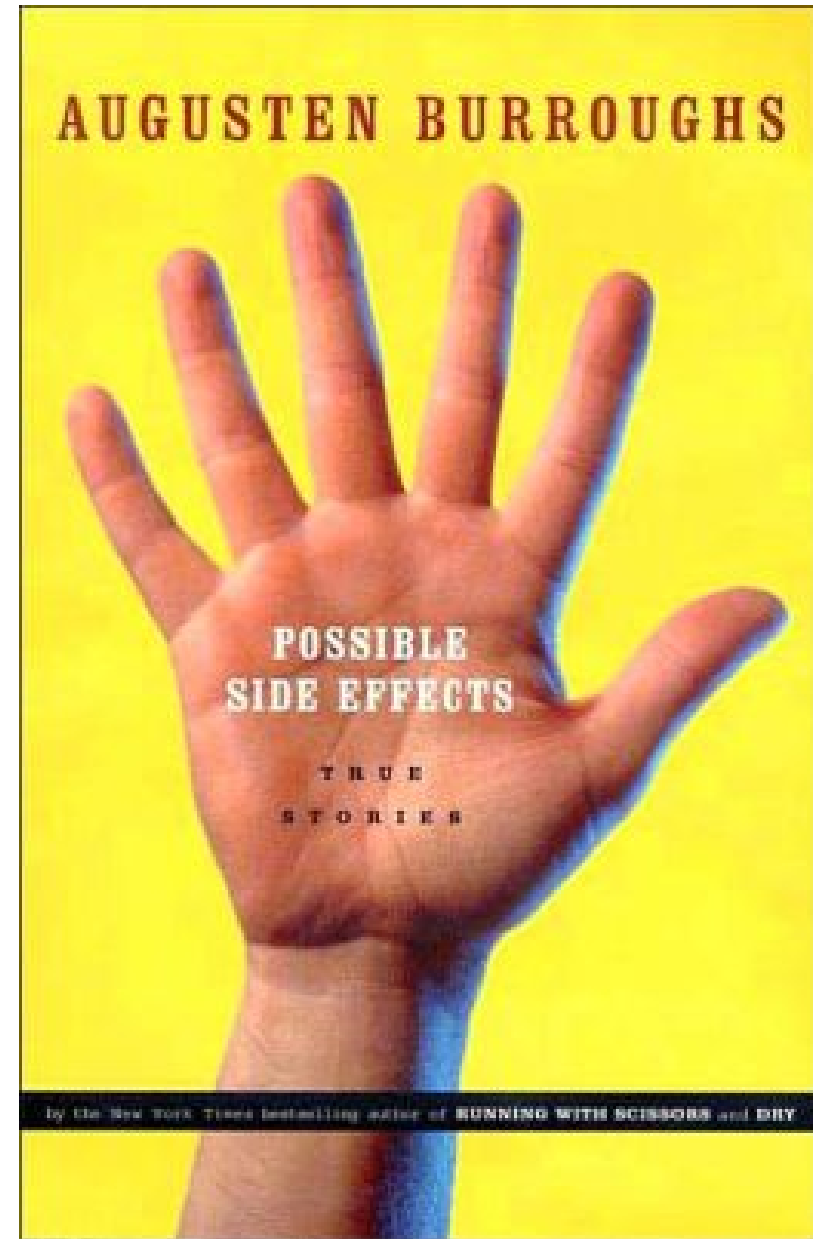
- Developed by Thomas Kuhn in 1970
- Once paradigm is adopted brain will
  - Search out data that supports
  - Discount data that contradicts



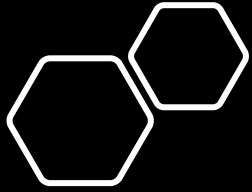
# Selective Attention Test



# Paradigm Theory







# Personal Paradigms: One Example

A man befriends the girls and begins to sexually abuse her

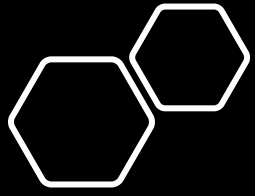
The girl's paradigm shifts to believe that the world is unsafe and they are responsible

The girl begins to hate themselves and starts to abuse substances as a way to cope with anxiety and trauma responses

The substance use turns in to substance use disorder. The substance use disorder makes the girl more vulnerable

The girl is abused again

A girl struggles with social anxiety disorder and has a hard time making friends.



# Intervention Strategies

- Individual Exercise:
- What brought you to the work of recovery advocacy?
  - Loss/Tragedy
  - Hope/Recovery
  - Fighting stigma/systems of oppression
  - HIV/AIDS prevention
  - Criminal justice reform
- How have your personal experiences changed your ideas of:
  - Yourself
  - Your family of origin
  - Your current family or important relationships
  - Your body
  - Your boundaries
  - Your emotions
  - Your advocacy

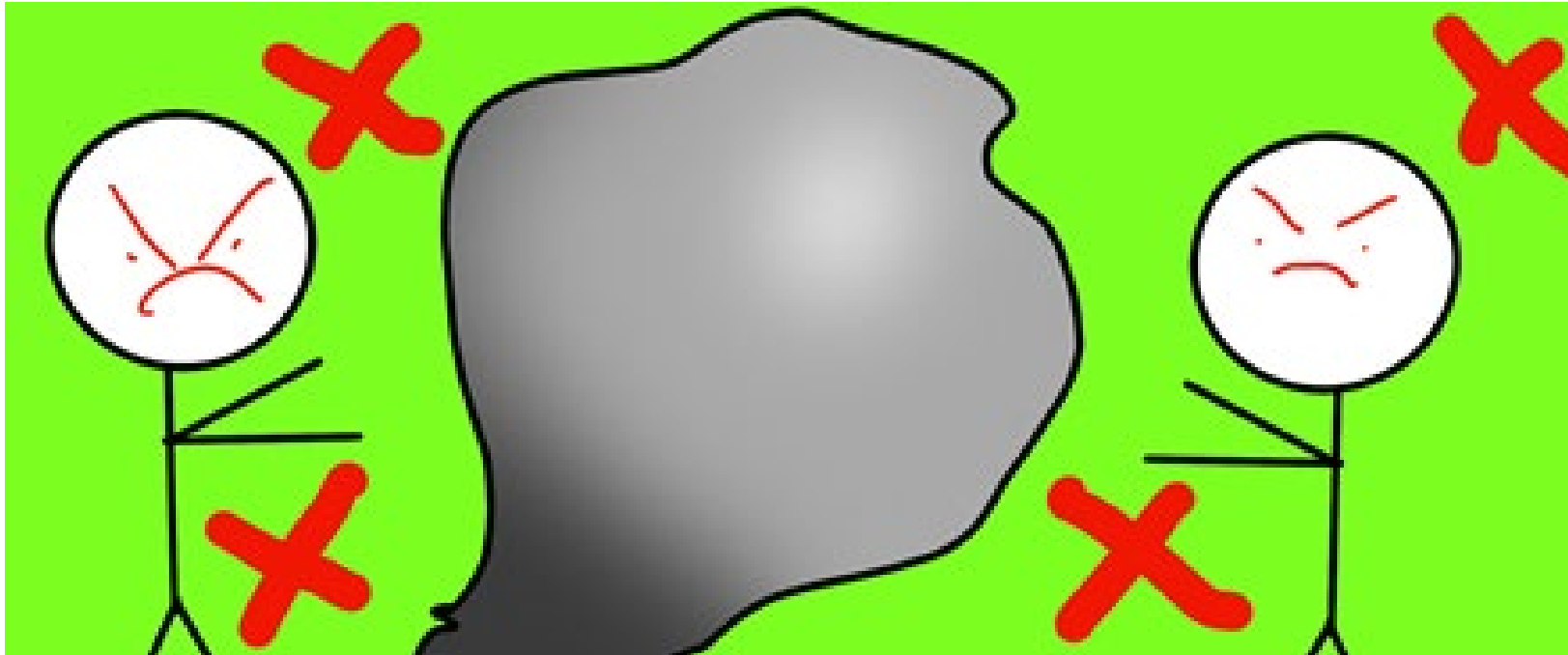


# Intervention Strategies

- Group Exercise
- Choose one advocacy ideal or policy that your personal paradigm has impacted
- Break up into small groups
- Choose one member to report out
- In your group, seek to understand how others have come to their paradigms and how these impact their recovery advocacy
- From your groups feedback identify one blind spot in your recovery advocacy paradigm
- Report out:
  - One member focuses on \_\_\_\_\_ in their recovery advocacy due to their life experience of \_\_\_\_\_. They identified \_\_\_\_\_ as their blind spot.

# Backing Up Your Goal



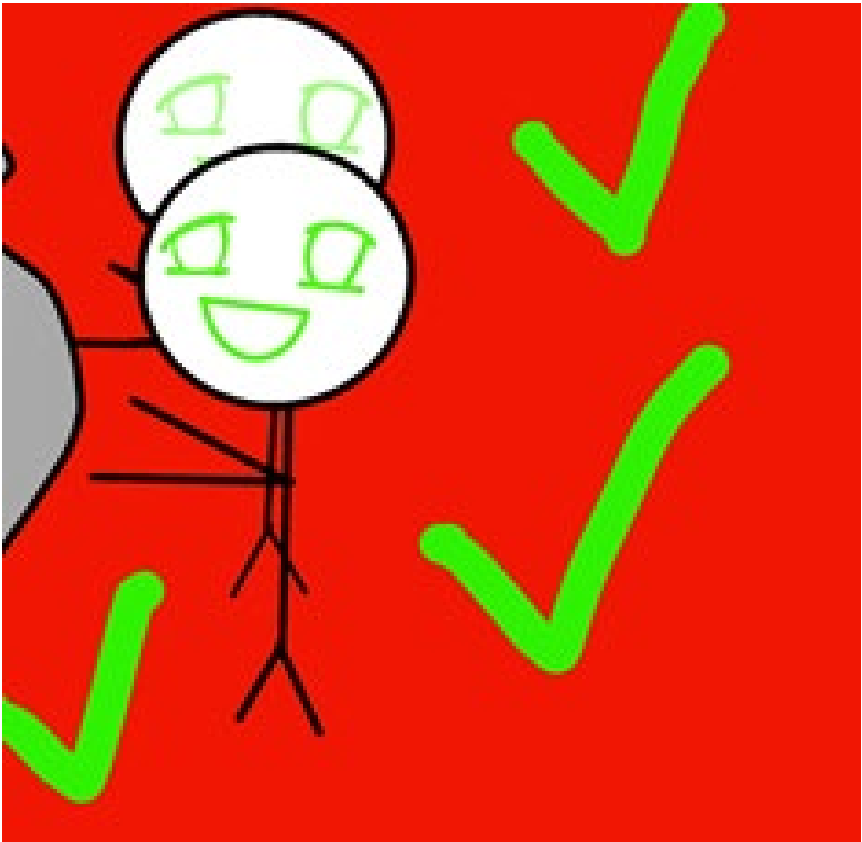
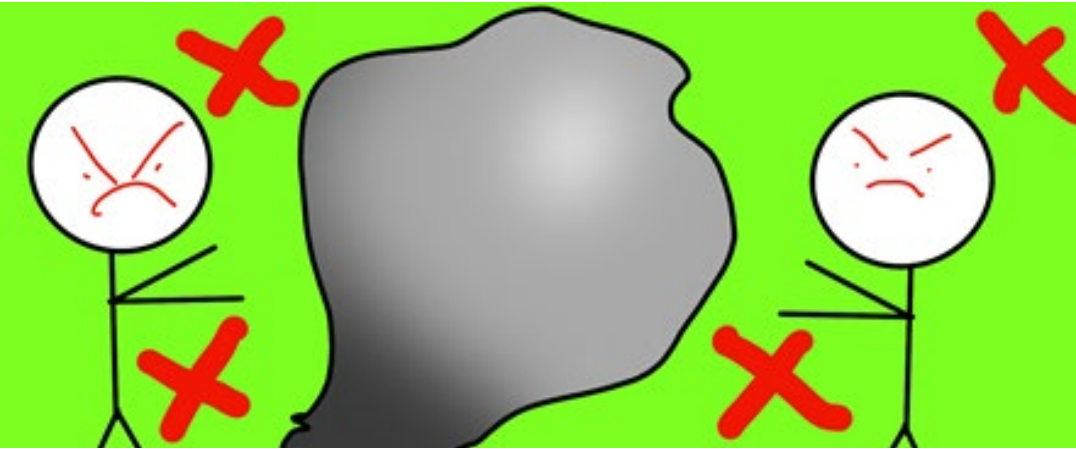


- By: Siela Alex

Conflict



# Compromise



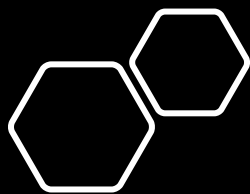
# Consensus



# Backing Up Your Goal

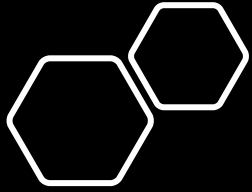
- Group Exercise
  - Choose one member to report out
  - Survey small group to find out who supports and who opposes cannabis legalization
  - Explain your stance based on your advocacy paradigm
  - Seek to understand not challenge, DON'T COMPROMISE!
  - With an understanding of each person's paradigm, back up the goal to something the entire group can agree upon





# The Importance of Representation





# The Importance of Representation

- When doing advocacy best practice is to have your advocate group be representative of the community that you serve, but how?
- SAMHSA
- US Census
- Round Up
  - This avoids tokenism
  - Increases the strength of historically unheard voices
- How to do outreach:
  - Know your state orgs
  - Importance of Partnerships
  - Come to the table with a sense of humbleness





# Web Exercise

- <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/cbhsq-reports/Wisconsin-2018.pdf>
- <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/WI>
- <http://www.city-data.com/states/Wisconsin-Languages.html>
- [https://www.google.com/search?q=black+trans+substance+use+and+mental+health+organizations+wisconsin&rlz=1C1SQJL\\_enUS884US884&oq=black+trans+substance+use+and+mental+health+organizations+wisconsin&aqs=chrome..69i57.14374j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=black+trans+substance+use+and+mental+health+organizations+wisconsin&rlz=1C1SQJL_enUS884US884&oq=black+trans+substance+use+and+mental+health+organizations+wisconsin&aqs=chrome..69i57.14374j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)
- [https://www.google.com/search?q=hmong+substance+use+and+mental+health+services+wisconsin&rlz=1C1SQJL\\_enUS884US884&oq=hmong+substance+use+and+mental+health+services+wisconsin&aqs=chrome..69i57.14350j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=hmong+substance+use+and+mental+health+services+wisconsin&rlz=1C1SQJL_enUS884US884&oq=hmong+substance+use+and+mental+health+services+wisconsin&aqs=chrome..69i57.14350j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

