

NYC Field Office Report 1 of 2  
Regional Advisory Committee Input  
August 27, 2012

1. What needs to be done to make sure the peer and family support exist?
2. How do we build economic independence?
3. What do you want to advocate for?
4. What do we need, i.e. housing?
5. How do we reach out and partner with other individuals on a professional level to build and collaborate to move the consumer movement forward?
6. How do we eliminate polypharmacy?

Question One

- We need more Peer Advocates
- We need more family members to be trained to be family advocates
- Family education
- More educated trainers – (it's one thing to know something; its another thing to be able to teach it.
- Family advocates / educators (the don't understand what we go through or have been through.

Question Two

- Finances for Peer education
- Knowing what comes easy to you, leads you to the path of education that you need.
- Knowing your passions
- Creating your own business depending on what you know – what comes easy to you
- We need more grants (grant-writing)
- The jobs you've had, the people you know – experience
- Networking

Question Three

- Advocate for more Peer Advocates (paid)
- Knowing someone who is educated about Peer Agencies
- Support for Peer Advocates
- For person-centered employment (each one's path is different)
- Need to be more open-minded, p/t, f/t on holding their own business leads to economic independence.
- Use SKYPE to advocate with People, communicate with people and network with people
- Using educational facilities for travel for those who can't get around

Question Four

- More housing
- Reinstate Section 8
- More choice
- Get them out of Adult Homes
- Having a place to go – more supported housing and Section 8 on Section 8 style housing
- The Federal Government should put more money into housing
- Writing letters / voting
- Section 8 voucher vs. provider based Super Section 8

Question Five

- Networking
- Being a good self-advocate and advocating for others
- Fundraising
- Use your connections
- Special event planning that puts together business people and consumers

## Question Six

- Medication – how to avoid medication we don't want
- The Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP)
- Good Communication with your doctor
- If it's not broke, don't fix it
- Individual choice – what's right for one person might not be right for others
- Respect of choice