

Application for Community-Engaged Scholarship Spring 2017 Grant

Title: The Recovery Narratives Project

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Narrative:

The Recovery Narratives Project (RNP) has been undertaken in collaboration with Minnesota Recovery Connection (MRC). MRC is a recovery community organization whose mission is “to ensure that all who seek it have access to the support, care and resources they need to achieve long-term recovery from addiction” (minnesotarecovery.org). In service of this mission, MRC engages in recovery visibility and recovery advocacy efforts throughout the Twin Cities metro area. Among its activities is the Recovery Advocacy Seminar, held each spring here at Metro State. It is well attended by members of the Metro State community, students in particular, and the larger Twin Cities community, and is indicative of the positive and collegial relationship our institutions share.

The RNP has two primary goals: to promote recovery visibility and to enhance understanding of the phenomenon of addiction recovery. The project itself consists of semi-structured interviews with individuals who identify as being in recovery. Interviews will be audio recorded and transcribed. In service of the goal of promoting recovery visibility, where participants consent, interview responses will be edited and published online as podcast episodes. A website (recovery narratives.org) has been obtained for this purpose. MRC’s contributions to this goal include collaborative development of the interview questions, dissemination of information about and promotion of the project, and provision of space for interviews.

In service of the goal of enhancing our understanding of recovery, where participants consent, we will conduct qualitative analysis of the interview responses. Metro State students and MRC volunteers can be trained to conduct interviews and involved in the analysis. MRC and I will share research findings with a variety of stakeholders, including other recovery community organizations, advocacy organizations such as Faces and Voices of Recovery, and conference venues that reach addiction professionals and service providers. We will also submit one or more papers on the project’s findings to scholarly journals.

Application will be made to the Metro State Human Subjects Review Board in December 2016 for review of this project.

Statement from Community Partner: See attached letter from Julia Alexander, Director of Special Projects, Minnesota Recovery Connection

Timeline:

Activity	Timeframe	Projected Completion
Gift Card Purchases	January	1/15/17
Postcard Printing	January	1/15/17
Website Design	January	1/31/17
Website Podcast Configuration	February	2/28/17
Recovery Advocacy Seminar booth	April	4/30/17
20 Interviews	February through April	4/30/17
Interview Transcription	March through May	5/31/17

Budget:

Vendor	Amount	Purpose
Minnesota Recovery Connection	\$500.00	booth, packet flyer and announcement at Recovery Advocacy Seminar
Pro Podcast Solutions	\$225.00	configuration of project website for podcast
Word Tech Secretarial Services, Inc	\$400.00	transcription of 20 half-hour interviews at \$40/hour
Target	\$400.00	20 \$20 gift cards for interview participation incentives
Target	\$200.00	4 \$50 gift cards for student WordPress help incentives
Staples	\$150.00	500 copies announcement postcard (high-quality color print)
TOTAL	\$1875.00	

Dean's Statement: requested, not yet received, see attached