



**GLOBAL
RECOVERY
NETWORK**

AN ALLIANCE OF PEOPLE THAT SUPPORT RECOVERY
FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS



**RED GLOBAL DE
RECUPERACIÓN**

UNA ALIANZA DE PERSONAS QUE APOYAN LA
RECUPERACIÓN DEL TRASTORNO POR USO DE SUSTANCIAS

Highlights from the Interactive Global Recovery Dialogue:

"Benefits and Challenges Behind Recovery Networking"

May 9, 2024

Moderated by Michael Botticelli, Chair, Global Recovery Network (GRN)

**Presentation by Boro Goic, President, Celebrate Recovery,
Chairman, Recovered Users Network (RUN)**



Boro provided an overview of his work with various organizations which have a recovery focused mission.



Boro is the chairman of the Recovered Users Network (RUN), founded in 2013, is based in Gothenburg, Sweden. The network consists of 63 member organizations which provide a political voice to recovered users and recovery organizations and contributes to policies through representing the recovery movement at the national, EU, UN levels. Despite its size and presence today, RUN started with only 2 people who wanted to give the recovery movement a voice!

In developing recovery networks, Boro encountered many challenges.

Suggestions for Coping with Challenges in Creating and Maintaining a Recovery Network:

- ✓ **Keep the network purpose front and center**- in all recovery networking efforts, the primary goal must always be: TO HELP PEOPLE OUT OF ADDICTION.
- ✓ **Keep confident and moving forward**- when first starting a recovery network, many people feel intimidated by the thought that they must compete with bigger and better funded networks
- ✓ **Keep a realistic timeline in mind**-most networks take between 10 and 15 years to become established and recognized

- ✓ **Keep both local and global perspectives in focus**-ask the question continuously: Does our local network aim to contribute to something “bigger” than our individual mission?
- ✓ **Keep rooted in core values**: what values does the network stand for and how are they operationalized to embrace people seeking and in recovery?

Helpful Tips for Building a Recovery Network:

Focus on Connection and shared goals—addiction is a disease of isolation---recovery is the opposite. What binds us together must be stronger than that which separates us.

Promote Good Practices-take every opportunity to promote evidence-based practices which are grounded in peer reviewed literature.

Share Research-based Approaches- we must advance recovery networks on a solid foundation of recovery research

View your Network as an “Agent of Change”-in many respects, recovery networks, individually and collectively, are about creating social change, including promoting acceptance and tolerance of many different pathways to recovery

Focus on Outcomes-recovery networks must produce results- what are the network’s goals, short and long term, and how will you measure progress towards their achievement?

Make Recovery Visible-think creatively about how to make recovery visible; t-shirt, recovery walks, rallies neighborhood events that allow recovery and those that believe in it to stand up and be counted

Consider a Three Pillar Framework- recovery networks may have different goals, but consider unchanging pillars around which goals can be developed; for example, 1) Promoting strengths that build on the positives that recovery brings to the lives of individuals and communities 2) Reducing barriers that must be addressed to ensure recovery success and 3) Refining systems, processes, policies, and laws to create the conditions for recovery to flourish.