



Help Identify Unique Community Integration Efforts + Promote Your Program!

The UPenn Collaborative on Community Integration is looking for your help in finding innovative programs/initiatives that help to promote community integration of individuals with psychiatric disabilities. Specifically, we are looking for programs that:

- 1) Address community barriers that limit the opportunity of people with mental illnesses to participate in the community like everyone else.
- 2) Provide rehabilitative supports that address an individual's unique needs.

These barriers and supports might be in housing, employment, education, leisure/recreation, social roles (parenting, intimate relationships, friendships), peer support, health and well-being, citizenship, self-determination, and religion/spirituality.

The UPenn Collaborative will select programs that meet the above criteria to FEATURE on our nationally acclaimed Web site.* This is an opportunity to give your program and its achievements the recognition they deserve! Programs recognized by the Collaborative as making a significant contribution to the field will also be highlighted in our presentations and in our quarterly newsletter.

Programs and initiatives to address barriers and provide supports DO NOT need to be from within mental health organizations. In fact, we are particularly interested in efforts undertaken by non-mental health agencies, such as religious organizations, community centers, child welfare agencies, mainstream employment programs, colleges/universities, employers, housing communities, local clubs or groups, etc.

Please contact Pam Cousounis (pamelac2@mail.med.upenn.edu or at 215-746-1950) if you represent or know of an organization that has developed and utilized an innovative community integration initiative and would like to share this information with the UPENN Collaborative. Please include the following information:

- Agency/organization name
- Program/initiative name
- Short description of this program/initiative
- Contact information (including contact person's name, phone number, e-mail address, Web site)

We look forward to hearing from you. Thanks in advance for your input!

Mark Salzer, Ph.D.
Director, UPENN Collaborative on Community Integration

* The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (US Department of Education) chose the UPenn Collaborative Web site, www.upennrrtc.org, as one of the best "Web Sites You Can Use." It is the NUMBER ONE SITE listed by Google when searching: community integration psychiatric disability and the THIRD most visited site for "community integration."