

# On The Front Lines Community Alliance

A network of practice for mental health, addiction & recovery professionals.



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## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### What is On the Front Lines Community Alliance?

The On the Front Lines Community Alliance (OTFLCA) is a nonprofit organization, a peer-run organization that provides non-clinical recovery support services to participants on an outpatient, as-needed basis. We exist by and for the recovery community. OTFLCA offers community education about addiction and recovery, advocates for fair and equitable public policies, runs anti-stigma campaigns, and/or offers no-barrier access to peer-based and other recovery support services. This includes peer support, resource-brokering, referrals to services, and support in the community to lower barriers and increase access to recovery.

### How did On the Front Lines Community Alliance (OTFLCA) originate?

On the Front Lines Community Alliance is a community initiative originating from a natural need in the Hamilton County community. In 2019, 6 peer specialists came together to address the confusion and lack of structure around the emerging peer profession. They formed a collaborative group, focusing on networking, continuing education, mentorship and sharing resources. Over time, we have cultivated a community built on trust and rapport, expanding our reach and advocating for better outcomes for those we serve.

### What is the goal of OTFLCA?

The goal of OTFL is to create a community of practice centered on peer support. We aim to provide creative solutions and coping strategies for both community members and professionals facing common concerns and challenges. OTFL seeks to foster a recovery-orientated system of care, promote collaboration among agencies and improve outcomes for individuals affected by mental health and substance use disorder.

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## Are there membership fees for being a part of the OTFLCA?

There are no membership fees to join OTFLCA.

If you are interested in supporting our initiatives, we invite you to consider purchasing our [recovery centric merchandise](#) or making a [donation](#).

## What resources or services does OTFLCA provide to the community?

At OTFLCA, we take pride in being resource brokers who continuously strive to expand our network and collaborate with professionals in various treatment facets. While we offer an extensive range of resources and avenues for connection, we are also aware of the existing challenges within the Healthcare system. Our focus is on leveraging our growing network and expertise to provide valuable support and assistance to the community, promoting a culture of collaboration and mutual benefit.

On the Front Lines Community Alliance provides a range of services, including but not limited to:

1. **Crisis Intervention:** Rapid response to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.
2. **Peer Support:** Peer-led support groups for individuals facing common challenges, within their recovery and its interface within their employment to foster sustainability and wellness within the workforce.
3. **Education:** Provides training and educational opportunities for healthcare professionals, community leaders, and the public on effective strategies for supporting individuals in recovery.
4. **Training and Certification:** Strengthen the training and certification process for peer supporters to ensure a high level of competence and professionalism.
5. **Peer Supporter Supervision:** An informal peer supporter supervision program to provide ongoing support, guidance, and mentorship to certified peer supporters.
6. **Enhance Advocacy and Representation:** Increase the involvement of individuals with lived experience in decisions related to substance use disorder to increase relevancy and positive outcomes.
7. **Community Engagement:** Collaborate with local organizations to expand the availability and application of peer support services throughout the community.
8. **Outreach:** Furnish public awareness campaigns to enhance knowledge while reducing stigmatizing assumptions, misinformation, and attitudes related to addiction and individuals in recovery.
9. **Peer Mentorship:** Peer support service for peer professionals providing connections with appropriate employers and other organizations throughout the region for employment and training.

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## I have heard of a community chat, what is it?

The OTFLCA hosts a crisis intervention forum designed to be an assembly liaison for connection to services for the clients. This virtual territory elevates the efforts of recovery professionals by seamlessly integrating a resource database into your workflow. This integration simplifies the process of locating, referring, and tracking access to resources for your clients, enhancing the quality of care they provide. To that end, the OTFLCA places a strong emphasis on collaboration with community organizations as we believe that exposure to, and interaction with, our law enforcement, community organizations, libraries, etc. can open the door to opportunities for growth and integration for our participants and clients they serve.

This platform is hosted through Slack, and is open, by invitation, to any professional working with individuals with substance use disorder.

## How often does OTFLCA host events?

The On the Front Lines Community Alliance (OFLCA) hosts communities of practice gatherings, a type of affinity space for peer recovery support specialists and those who supervise and practice beside them to network, learn, share, practice, and grow together. This gathering serves as a recovery district where individuals struggling with substance use or in recovery, as well as recovery professionals and organizational leaders, make connections to others who understand the recovery system of care first-hand. The goal of these gatherings is to bring together a variety of diverse perspectives from across the country to share in mutual learning that is centered on topics relevant to the peer workforce.

OTFLCA hosts 2 networking gatherings. All event information can be found on our [EventBrite page](#).

Meals will be provided by our gracious sponsors. If you plan to attend in person, please confirm your planned attendance with the link provided out of kindness to the host so that we may gauge a proper headcount. Lunch is provided based on registry and will be available on a first come first serve basis.

The **Cincinnati Network** meets monthly:

First Tuesday of the month

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Ohio Means Jobs Room C 1916 Central Pkwy Cincinnati, OH 45214

The **Dayton Network** meets bi-monthly:

Fourth Friday of the month

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Target Dayton Ministries 111 Xenia Ave Dayton, OH 45410

January 2024



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## Can I share my personal recovery journey or success story through OTFL?

Yes! You have a powerful story to share. On the Front Lines is passionate about the lives and stories of those serving our community. We want to share the stories of hope, triumph and overall success in our daily efforts.

[Please use this form to share your story](#), or feel free to email [Hannah@frontlinescommunity.com](mailto:Hannah@frontlinescommunity.com) and someone will get back to you asap about how and when it will be shared.

## What is the Peer Advisory Council (PAC)?

The Peer Advisory Council is composed of seasoned professional peer recovery supporters, active participants and leaders in their own recovery communities. The PAC plays a role in participating in coalitions and neighborhood committees, aiming to solve problems and create programs related to addiction response. Members will consult with and offer guidance on considerations concerning funding, policy, and best practice methods. This provides a platform for peers in the community to give them a voice in their treatment, recovery, work environment, and services available to better support a holistic, supportive, and inclusive recovery environment.

[Learn more about the Peer Advisory Council \(PAC\) here.](#)

## How did the members of PAC gain membership?

Through an interview process which left OTFLCA leadership to vote on the remaining candidates.

We are always accepting applications from leaders, advocates, and community members who support the mission of the On the Front Lines Community, agree with the ethos 'Nothing About Us Without Us,' and are looking for meaningful ways to contribute to the local recovery community.

[Use this link to submit an application.](#)

## Are there training or educational opportunities provided by OTFLCA?

Currently, OTFLCA is working towards facilitating organizational facilitated training.

[Our community calendar](#) showcases training and events happening in Southwest Ohio and neighboring areas.

## How can I contact the OTFLCA team if I have further questions or inquiries?

### + Email

[Onthefrontlinesalliance@gmail.com](mailto:Onthefrontlinesalliance@gmail.com)

[Hannah@frontlinescommunity.com](mailto:Hannah@frontlinescommunity.com)

[events@frontlinescommunity.com](mailto:events@frontlinescommunity.com)

[info@frontlinescommunity.com](mailto:info@frontlinescommunity.com)

### + Facebook

Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/onthefrontlinesohio>

Business Page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093095854040>

### + Slack

[Request to join our care coordination chat](#)

January 2024



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