#### **Mental Health PEER Connection**

**Programs and Services** 



### Mental Health Peer Connection

3108 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14214-1384

(716) 836-0822 (Voice/TDD)

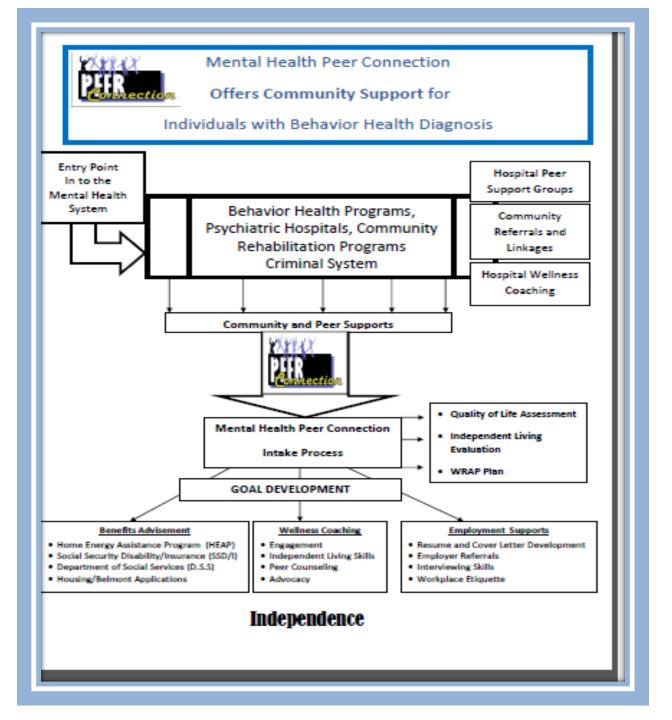
(716) 835-3967 (Fax)

http://www.wnyil.org

#### **Mental Health PEER Connection (MHPC)**

MHPC is a member of the WNY Independent Living Inc. Family of Agencies.

MHPC is an agency that only employs people who have been diagnosed with mental illness and/or substance abuse in an effort to help others with the same difficulties live as independently as possible in the community at large.



### **Assessment Tools Used**

#### **Independent Living Self Assessment**

This tool measures functional capacities.

Created by Vidyalaskshmi Sundar, PhD.

#### **Quality of Life Assessment Tool**

Shorter self-assessment providing quick look on consumer needs. Initial then at 90 days or when goal is met.

Created by NYS Care Coordination, Inc.

#### Wellness Recovery Action Plan,

by Mary Ellen Copeland, Primarily used as a relapse prevention tool.

### **Employment Measured by:**

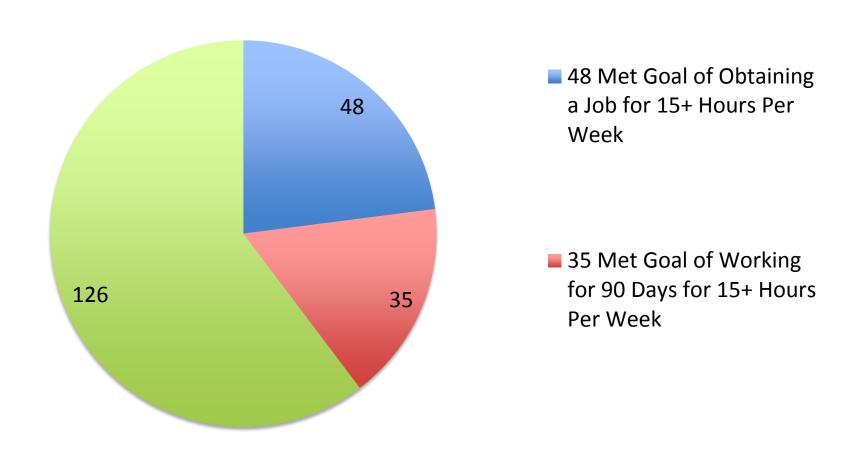
- Pay stubs.
- Transportation being provided via bus pass for three months.
- Continued support from MHPC Peers.
- Self reporting.

### Patricia Deegan PhD.

 "Boredom has to be the most stressful time in one's life"

"Not Without Us" Documentary 2012

### In 2013, 209 SMI Individuals Set Goals For Employment



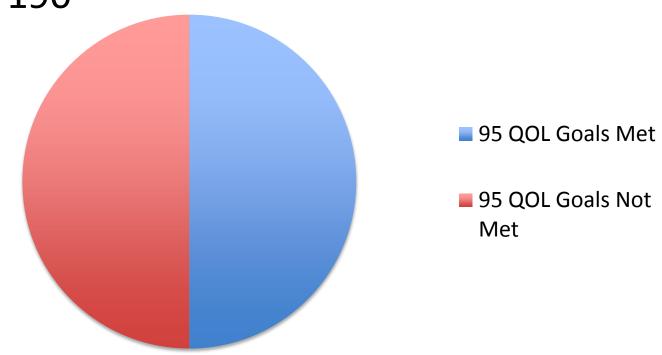
### Improved Quality of Life-

#### Self assessment in measuring:

- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Financial Status
- Housing Situation

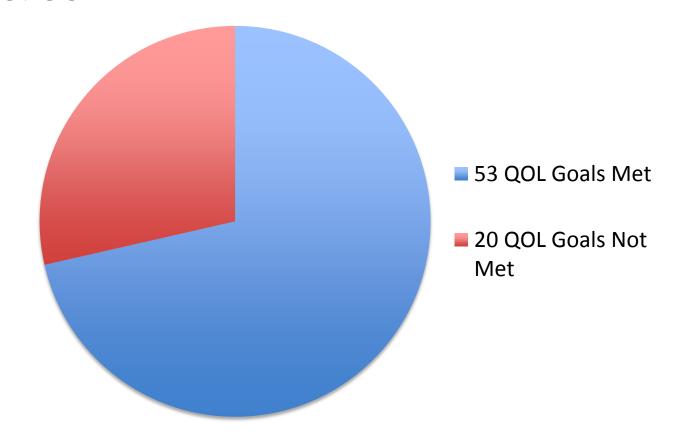
## Employment related to Improved Quality of Life (QOL)

 Those who <u>SET</u> Employment and improved QOL: 190



# Those Employed with Improved Quality of Life

 Those Employed with Improved Quality of Life: 53



### Quotes from REAL People served at MHPC

"I am able to save money and provide the things that my children needs without feeling stressed." Giovanna

"Since I been working, I'm able to <u>buy a home</u>, and feel like I am <u>a productive part of my community."</u> Kate

"It has helped to improve my self esteem and purchase a car." Dianne

"Returning to work has given me confidence dealing with others and helped me <u>overcome my social anxiety</u>. Where I once shied away from all socializing, I now initiate regular brunch &/or dinner dates with new friends." Dana

### More Quotes from REAL People served at MHPC

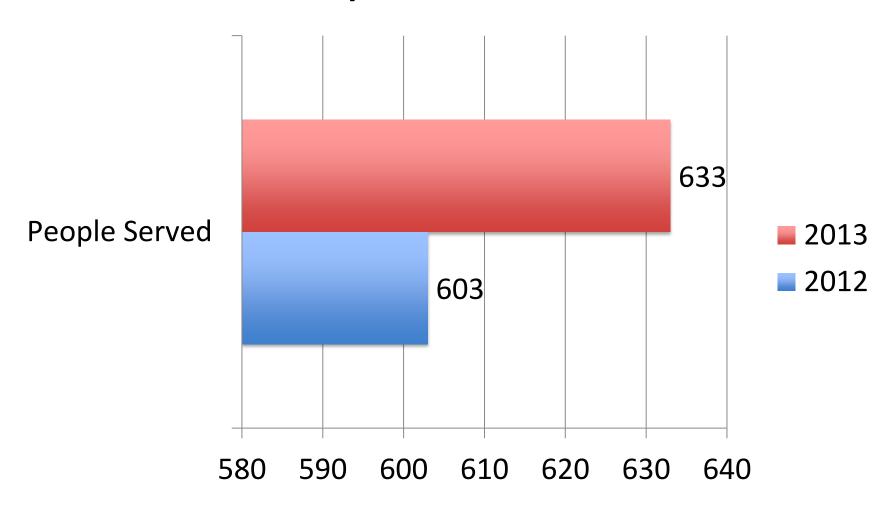
- "It's good to be off welfare and not worrying about having to sit in a workfare site just so I can get assistance." Joan
- "I have independence and <u>more choices</u> in life since dealing with my mental health issues" Tom
- "Returning to work provided many opportunities to join in community events no longer do I just live in a house on some block I'm a valued community member" Leslie
- "Working has afforded me the opportunity to remain independent within the community thereby leading to increased self esteem, self confidence and self worth." Collin

### More Quotes from actual people served at MHPC:

Being employed has given me restored hope and faith that <u>disabled does not mean unable!</u>
"Celina"

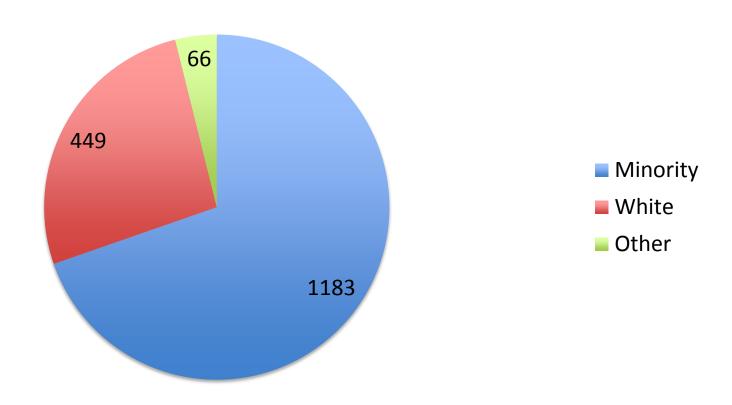
Being employed and maintaining my employment for the past 10 years has allowed me to restore hope in others that overcoming the stigma that "those with mental health are unable to be productive members within the community" is completely untrue! "Cathie"

## Number of People Served with Mental and Physical Disabilities



## SMI Minority Individuals That Were Served In 2013

#### **Minority Breakdown**



#### **The Integrity of Mental Health Peer Connection**

The Board of Directors of Mental Health Peer Connection consists of: **Majority of people with mental and physical disability.** 

The Mental Health Peer Connection Council consists of:

Majority of people with mental health disabilities.

All staff of Mental Health Peer Connection are recovering from lived experience with mental illness and/or alcohol and substance addiction

### **Contact Information**

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