Abstract

Recovery capital—the quantity and quality of internal and external resources to initiate and maintain recovery—is explored with suggestions for how recovery support services (RSS) (non-traditional, and often non-professional support) can be utilized within a context of comprehensive addiction services. This paper includes a brief history of RSS, conceptual and operational definitions of RSS, a framework for evaluating RSS, along with a review of recent empirical evidence which suggests that rather than enabling continued addiction, recovery supports are effective at engaging people into care, especially those who have little recovery capital, and/or who otherwise would likely have little to no “access to recovery.”