

2023 Awards of Excellence

Peer Specialist of the Year Award



Michael Hovey, CRM

Patient Care Supervisor

Fora Health Treatment & Recovery

The National Council for Mental Wellbeing is proud to name Michael Hovey, CRM, a 2023 Peer Specialist of the Year Award winner in recognition of his work changing lives and strengthening communities. Hovey will accept his award at [NatCon23](#) from May 1-3 in Los Angeles, California.

ABOUT THE AWARD

Each year at NatCon, the Peer Specialist of the Year Award is given to select individuals with lived experience who work in health care organizations and use their strengths to help peers on their road to recovery from mental illness. Learn more about our [Awards of Excellence](#).

MAKING A MARK

For Hovey, redemption and recovery go hand in hand. He went from selling drugs and serving a prison sentence to supporting people in recovery. His own journey of inner exploration, mindfulness and meditation enabled him to help others see the benefits of self-discovery.

Today, Hovey is a patient care supervisor at Fora Health Treatment & Recovery, one of Oregon's oldest, largest and most-respected nonprofit treatment centers providing high-quality, comprehensive treatment for individuals with substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health disorders.

At Fora, Hovey oversees the peer services program, where he helps others heal. In his role, he offers a wide range of support, from leading group activities that introduce patients to healthy outlets for stress like running, gardening or meditation to supporting patients one on one by helping them prepare for the transition from structured treatment to independent recovery.

