



## LIGHTHOUSE

A RECOVERY CENTERS OF AMERICA COMPANY

Hello and welcome to the RCA family!

Recovery Centers of America is committed to assisting your loved one through their recovery journey. We believe that one of the most successful ways we can do that is by involving loved ones in the treatment process. To acclimate everyone to our program philosophies and patient and family expectations, we have taken the liberty to put this informational guide together. We also appreciate that this is a stressful time and to try and ease that worry, we have created a brief RCA Welcome video for you as a way for you to be able to see what your loved one will be doing, and understand the process of engaging in treatment at RCA. Research has long proven that an individual has a higher rate of success when family involvement and support is prioritized.

This link will provide you with latest information on what we are offering families, including the Welcome video and our Orientation video as well as link to be able to register for live webinars on our educational seminars. Additionally, your input is incredibly helpful for us, and as such, you will find a Family Questionnaire we are asking that you fill in and submit back to your loved ones primary therapist.

<https://recoverycentersofamerica.com/family/>

### **Meet your Loved Ones Treatment Team at Lighthouse (609-837-4600):**

**CEO:** Corey Richey

**Clinical Director:** Crystal Fabrizio

**Admissions Director:** Mallory Roth

**Director of Nursing:** Joseph Ognibene

**Clinical Supervisor:** Marie Valerius-Hyacinthe

**RSS Supervisor:** David Curry

**RSS Assistant Supervisors:** Jessica Feehan and Keith Mencher

**Clinical Coordinators:** Ramona Flores and Caitlyn Baldwin

**Patient Engagement Specialist:** Jennifer Tomasello and Matthew Langill

**RCA's Family Engagement Specialist:** Ed Harrington: [EHarrington@recoverycoa.com](mailto:EHarrington@recoverycoa.com)

Your loved one's therapist will be assigned within 48 hours and you should expect a phone call within the first 3 days of treatment.

**Important Information:** You will be provided detailed information in the family orientation we offer every weekend at all sites. In addition, feel free to reach out to anyone listed above to get more information.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **1. What is the recommended stay of treatment?**

Families should prepare for the long road ahead. And commitment by families and your loved one is essential in the recovery process. RCA recommends a comprehensive, 30 to 40 day residential treatment program based on clinical recommendations, medical necessity and the unique needs of your loved one. Increased lengths of care have been proven to provide better outcomes (such as continued abstinence, decreased potential for relapse and continued employment). According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, participation for less than 90 days in residential or outpatient treatment is of limited effectiveness, and treatment lasting significantly longer is recommended for maintaining positive outcomes.

#### **2. What happens if my loved one wants to leave before the treatment team recommends? How do I remain supportive?**

Recovery is a difficult process and takes a tremendous amount of courage. However, this is a disease and certain expected symptoms of the disease may persist while in treatment. Your loved one may call you at some point telling you or demanding that you take them home. This usually occurs after detox or often around days



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7-10 and is an indicator that the symptoms of the disease are present for your loved one. There are many factors that may lead to this increase in behaviors, such as the brains response to withdrawal (PAWS), triggers, or the completion of detox to name a few. While this is an emotional time for both you and your loved one, their need to remain in treatment remains critical. Reassure your loved one that you love them but remain firm in your boundaries and stay close with the treatment team for strategies and support. Patients who leave treatment early have poorer outcomes in their recovery so it is imperative to encourage your loved one to complete their treatment. Please call the primary therapist if you are having thoughts of picking up your loved one early so you can process this difficult decision and explore how this might impact their recovery.

### **3. What is the Centering period?**

When an individual enters treatment, it can be a very vulnerable time. In order to give individuals the opportunity to settle in and focus on themselves and their treatment we have implemented a Centering period. During this period we limit interaction with outside contacts including family for a minimum of five days. This allows the patients to have the opportunity to focus on their treatment program, socialize with others, and achieve confidence in their sober-selves. It also allows you the needed time to begin to set up your own support both in and out of RCA. In some cases, and when therapeutically appropriate, we will assist individuals in making calls, and or facilitate family or couples therapy sessions/ interventions during the blackout period if there is a valid release.

### **4. What happens if my loved one rescinds their release for me?**

If your loved one rescinds a release for us to be able to communicate with you, when you call you will hear from us that we “cannot confirm or deny that that individual is in our program.” Releases can be rescinded for various reason by your loved one. If you know that a release has been rescinded, you can encourage your loved one to reactivate the release before attending visitation, by requesting they call you with a staff member present. Speak with your loved one while in treatment about the importance of your participation and desire to want to be a part of their recovery.

### **5. What are payment options at RCA?**

At RCA we pride ourselves on having strong advocates that work directly with our patient’s insurance companies to obtain coverage for treatment. Throughout your loved one’s stay, we will be collaborating with their insurance carrier by sharing their progress and goals to determine medical necessity for services. In instances where the insurance carrier is recommending another level of care, yet our clinical team believes your loved one can clinically benefit from continuing their residential stay, we will exhaust every option we have to get adequate coverage. In situations where this does not happen we have set up a financial assistance program with our partner, FinPay, In the event you and your loved one choose to progress in our program without the assistance of the insurance carrier. FinPay is designed to assist you by minimizing the financial burden associated with out-of-pocket treatment costs. All RCA patients have FREE ACCESS to a payment specialist who can help navigate financial responsibility for continued treatment. In addition we have financial counselors at each location who are on-site to assist in this process.

### **6. What are the ways I can Visit with my loved one?**

On your loved one’s 6th day of treatment they are welcomed to have a virtual visit on Saturday OR Sunday. In order to have a visit, your loved one must ensure that all visitors have a consent on file, provide us with an accurate phone number, as well as an email address to schedule the virtual visit.

We also encourage and provide family sessions with you and your loved one’s. If you are interested in participating in your loved one’s treatment and would like to schedule a family session, please feel free to contact your loved one’s assigned therapist to schedule during their identified working week. Family sessions can be in person, virtual or over the phone.



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**7. What Does RCA offer for Family Education and Support?**

**Monday Night Orientation 5:00pm-6:00pm( ET)**- this webinar talks about what to expect the 1<sup>st</sup> week of treatment, How to support your loved one if they have thoughts of leaving, The importance of After - care for your loved one.

**Tuesday Night Educational Webinars- 6:00pm-7:00pm (ET)**- **There is a different topic each Tuesday:** The Anatomy of Relapse/ Re-occurrence, Understanding the Importance and Purpose of Boundary Setting, Enhancing connection through effective Communication. , The Grieving Process of Loving Someone with a Substance Use Disorder, The Brain and Substance Use;, Managing Recovery through Self-care and wellness , The Journey of Recovery.

**Thursday Night Special Webinars**

- **The Young Adult Recovery Process-** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month at 6:00pm (ET)
- **RESCU Family Education for First Responders Family's** the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month 5:00pm (ET)
- **Understanding Medically Assisted Therapy (MAT)** the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:00pm (ET)

**Family Support**

**Virtual Family Support Group-** Sunday at 12:30 pm (ET)

**Shoutout** (Digital Health) Call 855-408-1050 and register to get the app on your phone. Join the Family Recovery community and have access to meditation, inspirational material, Podcast on family Recovery Topics, and much more!

<https://recoverycentersofamerica.com/family/>

**Lighthouse Family Support Group**

**Letter Writing and Establishing Boundaries Workshop-** Sunday and Wednesday from 5-6pm in our Mays Landing Outpatient Location. To register for these workshops, please contact Caitlyn Baldwin at [cbaldwin@recoverycoa.com](mailto:cbaldwin@recoverycoa.com).

***. Virtual Seeds to Recovery Program:***

*The Seeds to Recovery program is a unique, therapeutic experience in the safety of their own homes. Many leading experts in the field of addiction treatment and Family Recovery – as well as some who have walked the path to their own recovery – will join Together the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Saturday a month to share hope, education, and resources to help every family during this challenging time. Run by RCA's Family*



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*Engagement Specialist Ed Harrington and Sr. Vice President of Clinical Services, Trish Caldwell, Seeds to Recovery digs deep to educate families on the root causes of addiction and how to support a loved one on the road to recovery. We'll also help families connect in a positive way and develop healthy communication and coping strategies. It's your chance to learn more about yourself and your family dynamics as you navigate your way through your loved one's addiction. Seeds to Recovery shows you how to set up a healthy home for **everyone** in your household.*

Use the link below to register for the next Seeds to recovery:

<https://recoverycentersofamerica.com/family/>

### 8. What is the drop off policy if my loved one needs anything?

If your loved one is in need of any items, they can be dropped off at the facility or sent through mail. If you are dropping off items at the facility, please clearly label the bag dropped with patient's name and ring the doorbell for a staff member to assist you. If there is no staff present, there is a box located outside of the door where items can be left and brought in shortly following. All items whether dropped off or sent in the mail are checked thoroughly before providing to your loved one. There are several items that are not allowed in the facility, and you are encouraged to connect with a staff member from the facility if you need guidance on this matter.

#### **Family Resources:**

- Online meetings  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1a71ccw7ihaWelksKwOp4AzAkYIVqSoKiN6Gsm38bKMU/mobilebasic>
- <https://al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/electronic-meetings/>
- Nar- Anon: 12-Step program for family of friends of someone with a Substance Use Disorder  
<http://www.nar-anon.org/>
- Al-Anon and Ala-Teen: Live, online, and telephone meetings available <https://al-anon.org/>
- **Local resources:** <http://www.narcoticsanonymousnj.org/meetings/> or <https://aasj.org/>
- **SMART Recovery:** nationwide, nonprofit organization that offers free support groups and Internet Message Board discussion group <https://www.smartrecovery.org/>
- **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI):** A vital state resource for individuals and families facing the challenges of mental illness. Offers support groups, helpline and education  
<https://www.nami.org/>
- **Parent Professional Advocacy League (PPAL):** Provides resources for youth with mental health needs and their families through education, advocacy, outreach and support [ppal.net/](http://ppal.net/)

#### **RCA Complimentary Interventions:**

##### **The power of an Intervention is the love and support of family**

An Intervention isn't about confrontation – it's about finding your full-family solution, and that's exactly what Recovery Centers of America does. RCA Interventionists are ready to help the families before, during and after treatment. We work with you to build a team, so you can deliver a clear-cut message of love and concern to your loved one to encourage entering and staying in treatment. The idea of unknown can be daunting, especially when it comes to Interventions.

**Simply call 1800- RECOVERY** and ask to speak with an Intervention Support Specialist, they will help guide you based on your concerns. An Interventionist will work through the logistics with you and help you craft a plan that makes sense. Our mantra is love and concern. From here, the Interventionist will focus



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on putting options together and anticipating any objections or barriers that could prevent your loved one from recovery.

The Interventionist will help your family deliver the message and stick to the plan. Part of an Intervention means identifying recovery efforts for every member of the family, so everyone can understand how to support recovery, not addiction. This is of no cost or obligation to you or your family.

### **Book References:**

The titles collected here offer encouragement and practical suggestions to help your family heal and grow stronger.

- Addict in the Family: Stories of Loss, Hope, and Recovery by Beverly Conyers (2003)
- Everything Changes: Help for Families of Newly Recovering Addicts by Beverly Conyers (2009)
- Beyond Addiction: How Science and Kindness help people Change. Jeffrey Foote (2018)
- Loved one in Treatment? Now What!: An Essential Handbook for Family Members and Friends Navigating the Path of a Loved One's Addiction, Treatment and Recovery by Lisa Frederiksen (2010)
- Reclaim Your Family from Addiction: How Couples and Families Recover Love and Meaning by Craig Nakken (2000)
- Paths to Recovery: Al-Anon's Steps, Traditions, and Concepts by Al-Anon Family Group Head Inc. (1997)
- How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friends of Alcoholics by Al-Anon Family Groups (2008)
- Today's Gift: Daily Meditations for Families by Anonymous (1985)
- Courage to Change: One Day at a Time in Al-Anon by Al-Anon Family Groups (2015)