

*“Reaching Out...Changing Lives”*

## Mission Statement:

The Rescue Mission of Utica, Inc. is a Christian Ministry, established to proclaim, in word and deed, the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ, by unconditionally endeavoring to assess and meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those individuals seeking assistance.

## Vision Statement:

Be a conduit for God’s love, grace and mercy; from which individuals can be healed, forgiven and empowered.

## Core Values:

- *We believe in the God-given potential of everyone.*
- *We believe that it is God who changes lives.*
- *We believe in building relationships throughout our community to establish better care for the people we serve.*
- *We strive to instill hope in those who come to us.*
- *We value “mutual ministry” for every member in our community (including care receivers, staff, volunteers and donors) and strive to assist care receivers in rebuilding key relationships in their lives.*

## Rescue Mission of Utica

**Wendy Goetz, Executive Director**  
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[www.uticamission.org](http://www.uticamission.org)



## Sponsored by:

**NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) and  
Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)**



## Addiction Stabilization Center

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RESCUE MISSION OF UTICA  
**Peer Engagement  
Specialist**

**Rescue  
Mission**  
*of Utica*

*Reaching Out...Changing Lives*



## A Peer Engagement Specialist is...

A Peer Engagement Specialist is a person with lived experience and has the ability to navigate the recovery system. Each specialist holds a credential from a certifying authority recognized by the OASAS Commissioner and is employed by an OASAS certified program.

# WE CAN HELP



## What you might not know...

Individuals in New York State continue to get impacted by Heroin use in epidemic proportions. With over 50,000 overdose deaths in America last year, there is an increasing demand to bridge the gap between emergency medical services and substance abuse treatment. Many individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) are in need of support and motivation to begin the journey of rehabilitation and recovery.



## Questions?

can be directed to:

PH: (315) 534-3537

-OR-

PH: (315) 864-1893

## You are not alone!

The Rescue Mission of Utica Peer Engagement Specialist service is a 24/7, mobile, on-call responder who will travel to any Emergency Department (ED) located in the Mohawk Valley Region (Oneida, Herkimer, Otsego, and Montgomery counties) and assist individuals diagnosed with SUD. The Specialist is available to engaging and motivating person to treatment and recovery for



SUD individuals treated for drug overdose and/or drug-related complications. The hospital staff can request a Peer Engagement Specialist by calling (315) 534-3537.

## The main functions of a Peer Engagement Specialist are:

- *To connect and support SUD individuals in the ED through empathy, responsiveness and compassion while demonstrating a true and personal understanding of the individual's situation and circumstances.*
- *To inspire, provide hope and ignite motivation.*
- *To assist SUD individuals and families to identify and recognize natural supports.*
- *To educate and connect SUD individuals and families to community resources regarding substance abuse treatment, medication assisted treatment, insurance coverage, navigating the benefits system and assisting to establish benefits necessary to obtain treatment.*

