

Hero of Hope

Roy Kears, LCSW

Roy Kears, LCSW, is Vice President of Recovery Services and Community Partnerships at Samaritan Village, where he is leading the agency's efforts to create a recovery-oriented system of care and assists in our broader outreach efforts. He has more than 30 years of experience in the field of human services, helping develop an effective treatment in both substance abuse and mental health settings.

Mr. Kears is a staunch advocate of services for recovering individuals, often highlighting his own recovery as proof of the merits of the recovery process. He has worked extensively over the past fifteen years to advance services for veterans.

Mr. Kears previously spent 13 years as Samaritan Village's V.P. of Residential Services. Prior to joining Samaritan Village, he held positions at the Educational Alliance, including Assistant Executive Director. He is a licensed clinical social worker and a credentialed alcoholism and substance abuse counselor emeritus. In addition to serving as EXPONENTS' Vice Chair, he served on the Credentialing Board of the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, was president of the NYS Association of Substance Abuse Providers, previously a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and Board Chair of Faith Mission Crisis Center. Mr. Kears served as 2nd Vice President of the NYC chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Currently, he serves as Chair of the New York State ASAP Veterans Committee, and Chair of the NYS Certification Board, which certifies recovery coaches and peer advocates. A trained recovery coach himself, Mr. Kears is active with Long Island Prison Ministries.

Mr. Kears obtained a B.S. from York College and a Masters in Social Work from Fordham University. He is a married father of five children, two granddaughters, and one great-granddaughter and resides on Long Island. He has just completed his first book entitled "Poems from Recovery."

