



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF FIRE FIGHTERS



ADVANCED RECOVERY  
SYSTEMS  
an advanced approach to patient care

# IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE — HELP IS HERE**

**Exclusively for IAFF members**

**24/7 Call Center (855) 900-8437**



**Residential Treatment Facility**  
Addiction • Substance Abuse • PTSD

[www.IAFFRecoveryCenter.com](http://www.IAFFRecoveryCenter.com)





Designed with fire fighters in mind, the Center's surroundings, facility and furnishings reflect the familiar look of the firehouse so treatment takes place in a comfortable setting. The 15-acre campus includes a state-of-the-art gym and other features that encourage physical activity so members can continue a fitness regimen as a way to help with their recovery and return to the job they love.

The Center will also be used to train and educate peer support members, conduct additional research and develop needed protocols for fire departments to address behavioral health concerns.



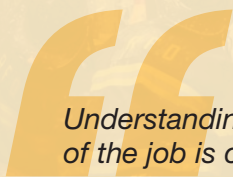
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## EXCLUSIVELY FOR IAFF MEMBERS

Our union has a strong history of being the leader in the fire service for advocating for the health and safety of our members.

We have made it a priority to raise awareness of behavioral health issues and reduce the stigma associated with asking for help. We also want our members who struggle with addiction and co-occurring conditions, such as substance abuse, depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder, to have the necessary support and access to resources.

We have partnered with Advanced Recovery Systems, a leader in behavioral healthcare management and addiction treatment, to build a residential treatment facility – the IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery – exclusively for IAFF members.



*Understanding the behavioral and physical effects of the job is critical to keeping you safe so you can continue to keep our communities safe.*

— IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger




**1 IN 5**  
FIRE FIGHTERS  
AND PARAMEDICS  
WILL SUFFER  
FROM PTSD AT  
SOME POINT IN  
THEIR CAREER



# BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY TO RECOVERY

Tragedy and trauma are an everyday reality for fire fighters and paramedics, and can lead to behavioral health issues, including addiction, substance abuse and post-traumatic stress disorder, a potentially disabling condition that can impact one in five fire fighters and paramedics at some point in their career. A host of additional behavioral health issues can also emerge, including anxiety, depression and even suicide.

The Center of Excellence gives IAFF members the specialized treatment they need in taking the first steps toward recovery and return to the job.



“Calling the Center of Excellence was the toughest—and best—call I ever made. The care is second to none. It saved my life, my job and my marriage. The Center is going to save a lot of lives.”

— *Lt. Joe Kovalsky, Danbury, CT*

*IAFF Local 801*

## Our Mission

To offer treatment for successful recovery and help IAFF members return to the job.

**24/7 Call Center (855) 900-8437**



# 92 PERCENT

OF FIRE FIGHTERS  
SAY STIGMA IS A  
BARRIER TO SEEKING  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
TREATMENT.

## IT'S NOT A SIGN OF WEAKNESS

“The Center of Excellence took care of me from day one. It saved my life.”

— *Luis Jimenez, Bethlehem, PA*  
*IAFF Local 735*

The Center of Excellence is the first-of-its-kind addiction treatment facility to also address post-traumatic stress disorder. IAFF members receive specialized treatment plans from medical professionals who understand the fire service culture and the unique pressures of the job.

IAFF members will feel as though they are among their brothers and sisters — because they are.

## RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE

The Center offers multiple levels of treatment:

- Detox
- Intensive inpatient and residential care
- Medical monitoring
- 12-step meetings

## AFTERCARE

The recovery process doesn't end upon leaving the Center. Focused on creating sustainable, long-term success, our team develops a comprehensive aftercare plan that also connects clients with medical and clinical professionals to help them upon returning home.

## OUR STAFF

At the IAFF Center of Excellence, patients form relationships with doctors, nurses and other clinicians who will help them on their way to recovery. During treatment, it is our goal to deliver the highest-quality care possible. That's why we've chosen senior staff with extensive experience and a commitment to care.

### **Dr. Abby Morris, Medical Director**

A graduate of Georgetown University School of Medicine, Dr. Morris is responsible for all inpatient care, training and future planning and for developing a continuum of care that will follow each client throughout their stay at the center. Previous to her appointment to the IAFF Center of Excellence, Dr. Morris was the Medical Director of a 24-bed inpatient facility that treated addiction and behavioral health disorders.

### **Carol Simmons, Ph.D. Clinical Director**

Dr. Simmons has more than 20 years of behavioral health and healthcare experience at the local, state and federal levels, with leadership roles at Ft. Meade and the Pentagon. Her background includes leadership and high quality clinical care. Dr. Simmons is responsible for the overall clinical operations at the IAFF Center of Excellence and makes it her mission to attain operational efficiency in an ever-evolving health care environment.

### **Dr. Chris Mosunic, Executive Director**

Dr. Chris Mosunic is an experienced leader in healthcare administration, specializing in integrated behavioral health. He completed his undergraduate studies at Bucknell University and went on to pursue a Masters of Science in Nutritional Biochemistry from Tufts University, a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Vanderbilt University and a Masters in Business Administration from Yale University. In 2010, Dr. Mosunic created the first behavioral chronic-condition focused program at Yale New Haven-Greenwich Hospital, concentrating on weight loss and diabetes management, which later expanded to long-term conditions such as cancer, heart disease and chronic pain.