



## May Webinar: Supported Employment in AOT

When asked about their recovery goals, many AOT participants mention wanting to work. Employment can play a significant role in recovery. In addition to confidence, relationship-building, and increased independence, some AOT participants make a connection between gaining and maintaining employment and treatment adherence.

May's webinar will focus on the importance of advancing AOT participants' employment goals by highlighting the partnership between AOT provider Georgia Pines and their supported employment partner, AmericanWork. Tabatha Burks, Lead Supported Employment Monitoring Specialist with the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, will kick off the webinar with an overview followed by a panel presentation.



Panelist Todd Lynch (pictured left), CPS-MH/WH, is the Peer Specialist for the Georgia Pines Assisted Outpatient Treatment Pilot Program in Thomasville, Georgia. Todd works closely with AOT and community collaborators to ensure individuals receive successful outpatient treatment and also meet their individual needs and goals. Panelist Robert Howell (pictured right) is Supported Employment Coordinator for AmericanWork and Certified Peer Specialist and assists clients with mental illness to secure and maintain community integrated employment.

Please join us **Thursday, May 16 at 3 p.m. Eastern.** [Register here today.](#)

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## May Web Chat: AOT Judges



This month's specialized web chat is scheduled for **Thursday, May 23 at 3 p.m. Eastern** and is specifically for judges, magistrates, hearing officers, and other judicial leaders. We ask that all who do not fit into this group refrain from registering, with the promise that we will make the recording available to all.

Please encourage your judge to participate! [Register here today.](#)

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## Maryland Passes AOT Law!

For over 25 years, TAC has led a nationwide movement to eliminate barriers to the treatment of severe mental illness. Much of that work included advocacy to reform state laws to make it possible to treat people before illness caused them to fall into homelessness, incarceration, or become a danger to themselves or others.

These efforts have contributed to all but three states adopting statutes that allow for the use of AOT. As of last month, that number will decrease to just two states without AOT laws, Massachusetts and Connecticut. We are pleased to share that after many, many years of hard work, advocates in Maryland have helped to pass legislation that will require counties to implement AOT.

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## Seeking AOT Judges

TAC is hosting a webinar that will highlight the diversity of styles and engagement strategies of active AOT judges from across the nation. The webinar will take place **Thursday, June 20 at 3 pm EST** and be available through the AOT Learning Network. To recommend your judge as a panelist, please [complete this form.](#)

Questions? Email us at [aot@treatmentadvocacycenter.org.](mailto:aot@treatmentadvocacycenter.org)

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## SAMHSA Grant Reviewers Needed

SAMHSA is looking for grant reviewers for the 2024 AOT grant funding opportunity ([SM-24-006](#)). Please visit their website [at this link](#) for additional information on how to apply.

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## AOT in the News

[Court-Ordered Treatment Passed in MD - What's Next for Counties Establishing Their Own Programs](#)

[News Track: 'Challenging, rewarding' first year of Johnson County mental health court](#)

[San Bernardino County Sheriff's H.O.P.E. Team Operation Shelter Me Continues to Provide Unhoused Residents in Apple Valley and Surrounding area with Resources and Housing](#)

[Will any of the bills that got through the legislature cause Moore heartburn?](#)

[Leslie Carpenter: Advocating for people with mental illness](#)

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## Growing the AOTLN

We are always looking to add members to this network. We would be grateful if you would forward [this link](#) to everyone involved in providing AOT in your community and encourage them to participate. The greater the range of roles and perspectives represented in the AOT Learning Network, the richer the experience will be for all involved. Thank you!



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