



September 2026

Options

NEWSLETTER

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF ADDICTION

Options Recovery Services Names Suzoni Camp Executive Director

On August 11, the Board of Directors approved the appointment of Suzoni Camp, MHA, SUDCC IV-CS, as Executive Director of Options Recovery Services. The decision makes permanent the role Suzoni has filled since earlier this year, when she took the reins during a period of transition. For most of us, this isn't news about a stranger. It's news about a colleague who has been part of Options for two decades and has worked in nearly every corner of the organization.

Board Co-President Susan Champion pointed to the steady, thoughtful leadership Suzoni has shown over the past several months and the Board's confidence in her vision and her commitment to the people and communities we serve.



Suzoni Camp, MHA, SUDCC IV-CS
Executive Director

20 years dedicated to our work & mission

Suzoni started out in direct client services — case management, community outreach, and crisis intervention; before moving into organizational leadership roles about 13 years ago. In that time she helped extend our programs into Oakland and San Leandro, got new pilot programs off the ground, and steered us through the rollout of new state mandates. Most recently, as Chief of Operations, she oversaw our treatment programs along with administration, human resources, and medical support.

Outside of Options, she holds a Master's degree in Healthcare Administration, is a certified Substance Use Disorder Specialist and a NAADAC member, has supported program reviews for California's Department of Health Care Services through the University of California, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Berkeley Food and Housing Program. She was also named an Outstanding Woman of Berkeley; an honor she was nominated for by our founder, the late Dr. Davida Coady.

In her own words

Suzoni describes serving this organization and the people who come through our doors as "the honor of her career." She credits what Options does well to something the staff practice every day: meeting people with dignity and treating access to recovery as something everyone deserves — including those in rural and underserved communities who too often get overlooked. Looking ahead, she says she's focused on building on the foundation already in place so we can deepen our impact and extend our reach.

Please join us in congratulating Suzoni!

A LETTER FROM THE BOARD CO-PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of Options,

This edition of our quarterly newsletter arrives during National Recovery Awareness Month — a fitting moment to reflect on the role Options plays in supporting those who make the courageous decision to enter and sustain a life of recovery. This month we especially honor the nearly two thousand clients who have completed and graduated from Options' Substance Use Disorder treatment program. The pages with this newsletter highlight many successful graduates who have faced their addictions and built successful lives in recovery.

We also celebrate a milestone of our own. On behalf of the Board, I am delighted to congratulate Suzoni Camp on her appointment as Options' permanent Executive Director. After 20 years of service to this organization, Suzoni brings to the role a deep understanding of our mission and, most importantly, of the people we serve.

As a board member for over 11 years, I have met many clients both in the program and long after graduation. Recovery does not come easily, but it offers the rewards that sustain the effort. I congratulate each and every successful Options client, and I ask you to take a moment this month to reflect on the impact your support has made.

We close the month by lifting up our most recent graduates at September's graduation ceremony, broadcast September 11th. Join us on Facebook or at our website to hear the testimonies your generosity makes possible.



With appreciation,

-Bill Joyce

Co-President Options' Board of Directors

Options Announces Its First Alumni Honor Roll

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH • FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

September is National Recovery Month, set aside each year to make recovery visible and to honor the people living it. Options usually marks it with a graduation ceremony. This year we are adding something we have not done in nearly thirty years.

For all that time, Options has marked the end of treatment with a graduation. A room, a certificate, and a handful of people who know exactly what the day cost. What we have never done is bring graduates back together across all those years. On September 25, we will.

Who is being honored

The Alumni Honor Roll recognizes graduates of the Options treatment program in good standing. Some finished this year. Some finished a decade or more ago and have spent the years since raising children, holding down work, sponsoring others, and staying. Recovery Month asks the public to look past the first thirty days. So does this evening.

How the evening works

Recognition is counted the way sobriety is counted, in years, five at a time. Our host calls each group forward, five years since graduation, then ten, then fifteen, and on, and one person from each group speaks. The music belongs to the graduates: each named a song that carries their recovery.

Who is attending

This is a private evening for the graduates being recognized and a limited number of invited guests. Seating and dinner are limited, so attendance is by advance reply only. Staff and volunteers: if you know a graduate in good standing who would want to be there, point them to the panel alongside.



ALUMNI HONOR ROLL • SEPTEMBER 25

Do you know an Options graduate who should be recognized?

We are gathering graduates from every era of the program for one night. If that is you, or someone you know, we would like them in the room.



Scan to RSVP

Tell us your graduation year, shirt size, and the song that carries your recovery.

lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/Vq3A5m9/alumni_honorroll

PLEASE REPLY BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Pass this newsletter along to a graduate you know.

Questions: development@optionsrecovery.org • 510-666-9552 x114



**Options
Recovery
Services**
Choose Options for Life

Alumni HONOR ROLL

What our honored Alumni are saying about their time at Options and new lease on life:

Twenty-three graduates will be recognized on September 25, from the class of 2019 through this year. Here are ten of them.



Marcus B

CLASS OF 2019

I graduated in 2019, and my dad made a heartfelt speech on graduation day that brought tears. I'm fluent in motivational speaking, working with A Better Way and now Restorative Pathways as a youth advocate and ambassador for the Riley Recovery Center.



Samuel M

CLASS OF 2020

I graduated from the California Institute of Integral Studies with a master's in counseling psychology, emphasis in expressive arts. I created arts programs at treatment programs, became a licensed marriage and family therapist, and now serve as Clinical Director at Rosebay Behavioral Health. Options saved my life.



Bryan H

CLASS OF 2022

Since graduating from Options I have repaired all my familial relationships and taken the helm as the patriarch of my family. I have continued my recovery and I love my life. Thank you, Options.



Denise C

CLASS OF 2023

I work with Swords to Plowshares as a mentor for Veterans Treatment Court in Alameda County, offering peer support to veterans. I am a graduate of the court myself. I am honored to have been given this opportunity. Options has definitely been a positive contribution to my success.



Donald D

CLASS OF 2023

Since graduating in October 2023 I have continued my education at Laney College, earned my AA in Sociology, and am pursuing an art degree with plans to work toward a teaching credential. I stay committed to recovery by giving back through mentorship and community involvement. Recovery gave me a second chance; purpose keeps me moving forward.



Elissa S

CLASS OF 2024

Since I graduated Options I have done a lot. I have a good job as a substance use disorder counselor. I traveled to Egypt. I got my record completely expunged. I got my first apartment after ten years of homelessness, and I graduate college in May 2026.



Richelle A

CLASS OF 2024

After graduating I became a staff member at Options, working with Kim Chavez as my supervisor. It was a wonderful learning experience. I later left to work at LifeLong Medical as a Substance Use Disorder Registered Counselor III, and I am in school to become a social worker.



Cindy S

CLASS OF 2025

I am taking my time to truly know myself, staying mentally and physically present for my family. Sobriety has let me travel constantly, from Hawaii to New York to Dallas, and a surprise visit to my 89-year-old mom in Vietnam. At 56 I am living my best happy life, and in August I became a grandmother to twin girls.



Manny P

CLASS OF 2025

I graduated in 2025 and have stayed within the organization. I am now the Lab Technician. This program works, but only if you want to put in the work. Options Recovery Services saved me from myself and I am forever grateful.



Malakia A

CLASS OF 2026

I graduated March 6, 2026. Since then I have gained employment and enrolled in school to earn my high school diploma. I attend aftercare and an in-person meeting every day, and I serve as secretary. I have regained my family's trust and see all eight of my grandkids regularly.

And also being recognized

Calvin B '23 Four years employed, back in school for his diploma.

Emilie W '26 One year sober; mentors other women in recovery.

Jewell F '24 Working security; has his own apartment and a car.

Katrina B '25 Housing, a job, and great support.

Ralph M Working full time and helping others in recovery.

Cody W '24 Credits West Oakland staff with making it possible to be.

Erika H '25 Eight years sober.

John W '25 Housed in downtown Berkeley; grateful for a second chance.

Mina L '24 A more present mother to all five of her children.

David M '25 Working again as a plumber, a day at a time.

Hugo R '25 Licensed interpreter; studying radiology at Merritt College.

Kajsa S '25 Eighteen months clean, with a home in San Leandro.

Priscilla L '26 Committed to growth, accountability, and a stable home.

Voices of Recovery: June 2026 Graduates

At Options, we celebrate recovery! Every day, every month and every year is a milestone. These graduates continue to be examples that the cycle of addiction can be broken.

"I came to Options because I felt I was no damn good. And as I graduate with over a year of sobriety, I have more faith than ever that what comes next is going to be beautiful."

Danny M.

"At Options, I didn't just maintain my recovery. I built a life. I got a job. I enrolled in school studying data analytics and cyber security. I spent real present time with my children, my family, my friends."

Mimi N.

"I'm a warrior and warriors don't quit. To every staff I had Options, thank you for seeing me when I could not."

Teresia G.

"I want to recognize Option' staff for really believing in me and being very supportive on my road to recovery. In my past, I lived in denial amongst other different problems and I and relearning how to balance my emotions and change my thinking pattern."

Christopher P.



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

Taking the Fight Against Addiction to the Streets



Options is proud to report that our newly established Opioid Use Prevention Project is exceeding expectations in Contra Costa County. Credible messengers conduct outreach across the county, connecting people to care, distributing Naloxone, and providing wellness kits to the unhoused.

334

unhoused individuals served since March. The annual goal of 100 was met in the first two months.

The project provides education on the dangers of opioid misuse, promotes Medication Assisted Treatment, and addresses the needs of communities of color and vulnerable populations disproportionately impacted by substance use disorders, partnering with Contra Costa County and local providers in Concord, Pittsburg, Antioch, and Richmond.

We are thrilled at the opportunity to take our fight against addiction to the streets.



SEPTEMBER GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Friday, September 11th, Options will proudly celebrate and recognize graduates who successfully completed our Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program!
Watch the video ceremony via Youtube, Facebook and our website.

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING OPTIONS:

Write a check or donate online

Send a check to Options Recovery Services, donate one time or become a recurring donor online at www.optionsrecovery.org.

For questions, contact Scott St Clair, Development Coordinator, at 510-666-9552 x114 or email

development@optionsrecovery.org.

Approximately 90% of Options' funding comes from government contracts. The remaining 10% comes from business income and from donations from people like you. Your donations help to provide the necessities that support our clients on their roads to recovery.

Donate gently used furnishings, appliances, & housing items

Bring items to Options' office at 1835 Allston Way in Berkeley on Friday afternoons or contact Barbara Madeiros, Housing Director, 510-666-9552x123 or email bmadeiros@optionsrecovery.org.

Volunteer your time

Help with our office support, development, and/or facility maintenance and improvement. Contact Human Resources at 510-666-9552 x 119 or email humanresources@optionsrecovery.org.

Sponsor a graduation ceremony

A great way to promote your church, business or community organization. Contact Scott St Clair, Development Coordinator, 510-666-9552 x114, or email development@optionsrecovery.org

Contract for drug

Ensure your workplace or activity is drug-free by contacting Kim Chavez, Director of Administration, at 510-519-6880 or email kchavez@optionsrecovery.org.