



# LINCS UP

Emory University Department of Emergency Medicine  
Program supported by CDC 1R01CE003509

## ABOUT LINCS UP

*Linking Individuals Needing Care for Substance Use Disorders* (LINCS UP) is a Peer Recovery Coach program that supports ED + hospital patients with linkage to a broad range of recovery resources. Available virtually and in-person, the PRCs continue working with patients after they are discharged from the hospital to provide ongoing support. The program primarily supports patients within the Grady Memorial Hospital and will soon be expanding to Emory Midtown.

## ENGAGEMENT

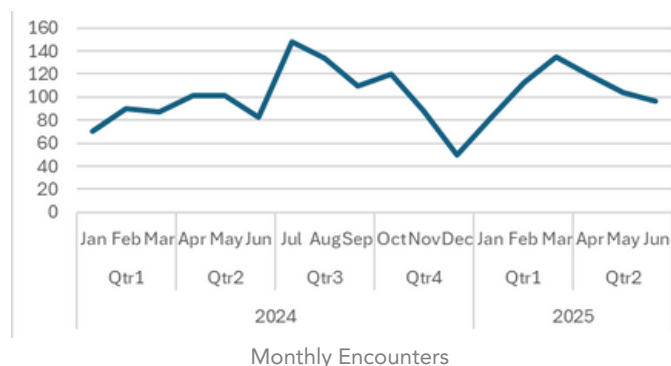
To-date, **more than 700 people** have been placed directly into residential treatment by the LINCS UP team.

As of 7/28: 2587 peers seen since April 2023.

- 84% of peers approached agree to engage
- Only 11% actively engaged with a recovery organization at the time of our encounter
- 86% of those engaged accept at least one referral

## LINCS UP DATA- ENCOUNTERS

All encounters from Jan. 2024 to June. 2025



### A MESSAGE FROM JOE CARPENTER, LINCS UP PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

This is an exciting time for the LINCS UP team. We wrapped up clinical trial enrollment at the end of June, with a total of 144 participants. We are collecting follow up data through the end of September and will start our analysis in October. It will be very exciting to see our results! Our research team is working on two publications analyzing the impact of our observation unit pathway, and a retrospective look at the work our team has done.

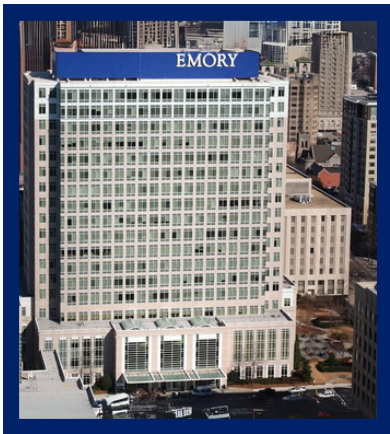
This is also a time of growth and transition within the team. We are excited to welcome Krystal Brown and Eric Gibson to our team, and are actively recruiting new CARES for our Emory Midtown site. Sadly, our subcontract with GC4R will end in September and we will say bye for now to Berlinda, Mikalya, and Ciara. They have been incredible team members and have made tremendous contributions to our community and the peers we serve. We owe them a huge thank you for their service!



## PEER RECOVERY COACH HIGHLIGHT

### Meet Sydney

Sydney is one of LINC'S UP Peer Recovery Coaches. To her, LINC'S UP is the perfect opportunity for her to combine two passions: harm reduction and supporting individuals on their recovery journey. Sydney emphasizes harm reduction is an integral part of recovery, noting many peers practice harm reduction daily without realizing it. She also recognizes that some peers, recovery needs to be reframed as a series of small, manageable steps, allowing larger challenges to gradually become more approachable. She believes that every milestone is worth celebrating in recovery, no matter how small, something she didn't realize until a couple of years ago and now actively promotes. In addition, Sydney is a strong advocate for peers and inspires them to advocate for themselves too. She reassures them that they are seen, heard, and respected throughout their recovery journey.



### WE'RE HIRING

We are actively recruiting for our new peer recovery coach program at Emory. Our team will be modeled after the existing program at Grady. Please share the link below with anyone that might be interested!

<https://staff-emory.icims.com/jobs/148730/job>

### UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

Emergency Department-Based Addiction Medicine Interventions. Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress, August 14-17<sup>th</sup>.

### QUOTES FROM OUR PEERS

"[Peer coach] hung on to every word I said. She is a wonderful listener. I felt heard and listened to. And that's the most important thing people need is just to be listened to. Thank you guys"

"[The Peer Recovery Coach] told me I had what it takes to be living a sober life. She [said] they will continuously help me throughout my whole process. And that's what they did."

"I just talk to [Peer Recovery Coaches] about life, and what I'm going through. They're only one phone call away every time."