

# 2026 RAI SYMPOSIUM

Community Recovery in Action:  
Honoring Progress



**Remove barriers. Build community. Honor progress.  
That's community recovery in action.**

**“Powerful when you add lived experience side by side with expertise -  
because experience is lived expertise.”**

Thank You

To our speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, volunteers, partners, and attendees -  
thank you for helping create a space where recovery, connection, and  
collaboration continue to grow across North Carolina.



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# 2026 RAI Symposium Impact

## Recovery Is Possible. Community Makes It Real.

Across evaluations from attendees, speakers, and sponsors, one theme rose above everything else: Connection. Attendees consistently described the Symposium as a place to:

- Build partnerships
- Strengthen recovery ecosystems
- Learn practical strategies
- Collaborate across sectors
- Create lasting community relationships

"This was an opportunity to network with partners seeking to restore individuals and families dealing with substance use disorders. It was a powerful time of sharing stories of hope."

## Most-Highlighted Experiences

- Dr. John Kelly's keynote on resilience, vigilance, and long-term recovery support
- Interactive table discussions and collaborative breakout activities
- Practical "AI for Your Work" implementation session
- Lived-experience voices integrated alongside professional expertise
- Cross-sector collaboration between recovery, healthcare, justice, education, and community organizations

## By the Numbers

100%

of attendees said they'd attend again

233

attendees

1 in 3

first-time attendees

4.9/5

sponsor satisfaction

5/5

speaker prep rating

4.6+/5

all session scores

## Building Momentum Together

The 2026 Symposium reinforced something important:  
Recovery work becomes stronger when communities work together.

RAI remains committed to creating spaces where systems collaborate, lived experience is valued, practical solutions are shared, partnerships grow, and recovery remains within reach for all.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who joined us in New Bern.

## Additional Symposium Materials

Presentation slide decks and additional event resources are included on our website ([HERE](#)).

Save the date for the 2026 Summit in Raleigh on Oct 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>! ([HERE](#)).

[recoveryall.org](http://recoveryall.org)