



CLERO
COLLEGE OF LIVED
EXPERIENCE RECOVERY
ORGANISATIONS

We are delighted to be part of the Board of this exciting and challenging project to connect, support and encourage the development of Lived Experience Recovery Organisations around the UK.

Underlying principles of a LERO:

Principle 1: Informed by a primary relationship with their community and who act in response to the needs and aspirations of their community, recognising and employing the assets and competencies that already exist

Principle 2: Everything done in and by a LERO is driven through co-production

Principle 3: All activities will be informed by a rights-based approach, including the right to health

CLERO History:

Starting in May 2020, a group of 10 champions of recovery from different corners of the recovery ecosystem began to meet on a weekly basis to share their thoughts and support each other and an agenda quickly developed consisting of five objectives:

1. To expand the scope beyond a narrow definition of recovery to include all of those damaged by exclusion and marginalisation – and so the term LERO (Lived Experience Recovery Organisation) was born
2. To provide a platform for sharing and disseminating the Innovations that are central to recovery oriented organisations
3. To agree on a core set of Values for Lived Experience Recovery Organisations
4. To create an Evidence-Base for recovery organisations to provide credibility and professionalism
5. To develop a set of Standards for LEROs as a framework for growth and development rather than a cage

It is no coincidence that these five objectives connect to form another acronym, LIVES. The aim of all LEROs is to support individuals, families, and communities to lead positive and meaningful lives that contribute to the wellbeing of their communities.

CLERO Mission:

The aim is to develop a Recovery Strategy that is signed up to by crucial leadership figures and organisations for (addiction) recovery in the UK. The focus will be on Lived Experience Recovery Organisations (LEROs), that has the idea of active citizenship at its core. We want to build coherence, trust, credibility and consensus for recovery groups and communities based on a model that promotes an evidence-based approach predicated on Lived Experience.

Four Primary Objectives:

- 1: To identify and champion innovation in LEROs and provide a supporting evidence base
- 2: To provide connections and support for recovery leadership
- 3: To champion good practice in LEROs and to develop standards
- 4: To act as a voice for LEROs and a hub of evidence and knowledge

CLERO is aiming to create a local, regional and national voice that can support quality standards, evidence good care in formal treatment settings and contribute to policies and decisions relating to service provision. We want to help the development and sustainability of other Lived Experience Recovery Organisations.

These are the current tiers of membership:

- Tier 3: Professionals, commissioners, associated groups and all those who want to support the College of LEROs
- Tier 2: Lived Experience Recovery Organisations each represented by one person from each LERO as a spokesperson
- Tier 1: Coordination and oversight group of around 12 members

Contact Recovery Cymru for more details.