



# Recovery Ready Research: Reflections and Implications

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A little back story...

Recovery Ready *Researcher*

*Research*

*Communities*

# Recovery Ready **Researcher/Evaluator**

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- Recovery-oriented values
- Embedded presence of the researcher
- More than a researcher?
- Bringing the researcher in from the shadows
- Embracing the researchers' experience
  - Self-reflective data including fieldwork experience (e.g., Stevens, 2013)
  - Sensory criminology (McClanahan and South, 2019; Herrity, Schmidt and Warr, 2023)

"I can speak to you...and I can tell you what's going on. I've built up a relationship with you. A positive relationship. A trusting relationship. I trust you. I feel comfortable with you, and I know I'm no' being judged... I *think* you know me quite well. We don't see each other *every* day but I've still seen you from the start and spoke to you and you know about my life and everything I went through....

I feel like when I speak to you, you've got a bit of understanding. You know where I was and where I was from, and my anxiety and my trust issues, d'you know what I mean? You've built up that relationship, so I think it would be beneficial if there *would* be somebody, ay, floating about, getting to know the residents, building up that positive relationship..."

(Community Member, Six-Months Post-Treatment Interview, September 2023)

The "*transformative power of research just by 'being there'...in the field*"  
(Baumbusch, 2011, p.189)

## Recovery Ready **Research/Evaluation**

Core principles of 'Recovery Ready Research'?

- "Easy and accessible" (Staff Member)
- Person-centred and trauma-informed
- Structured but flexible
- Reflective practice
- Community-led
- Integrated

From using research as an evaluation tool to gauge outcomes and improve recovery ready communities...



...to using 'recovery ready research' as a tool to enrich recovery ready communities and the recovery journeys within them.

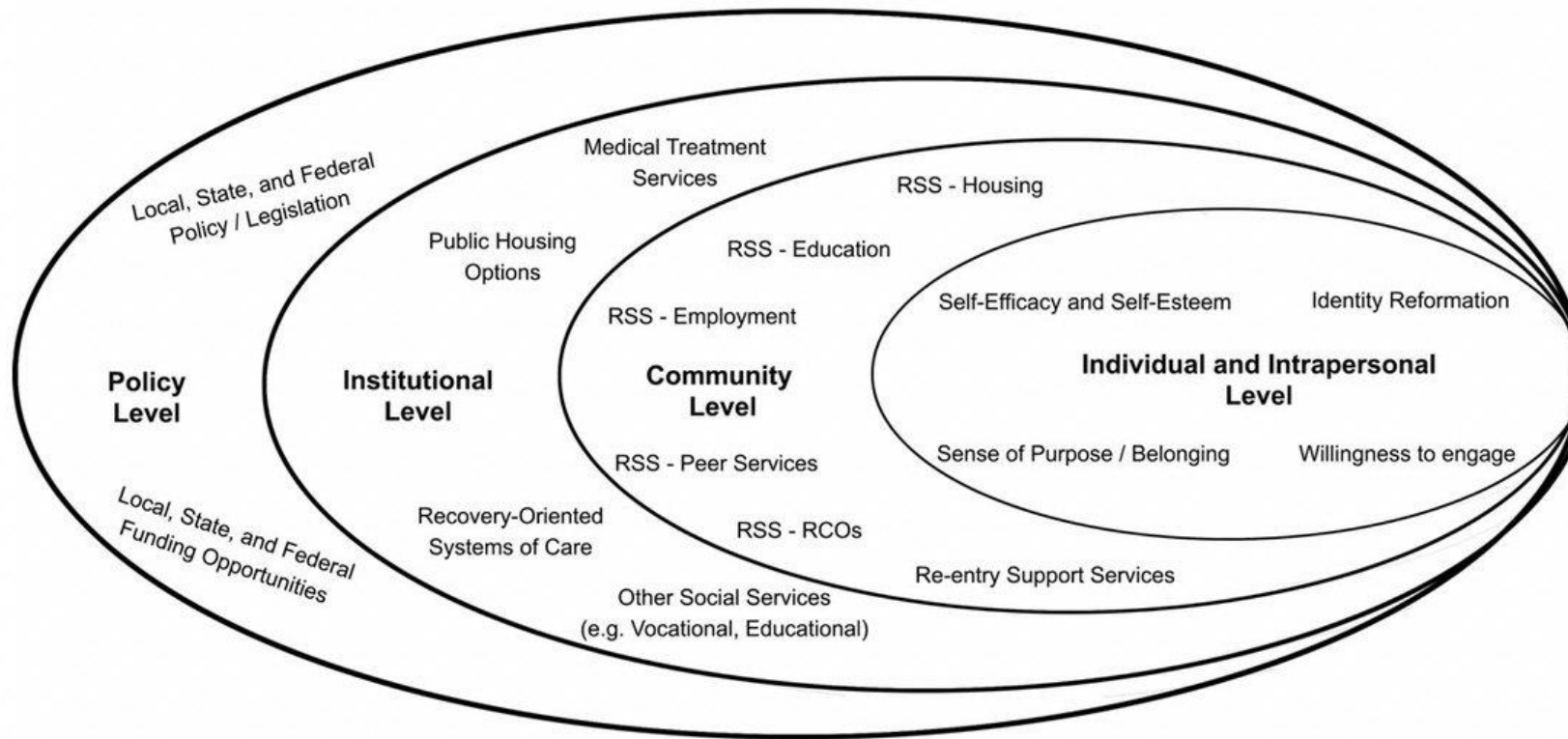
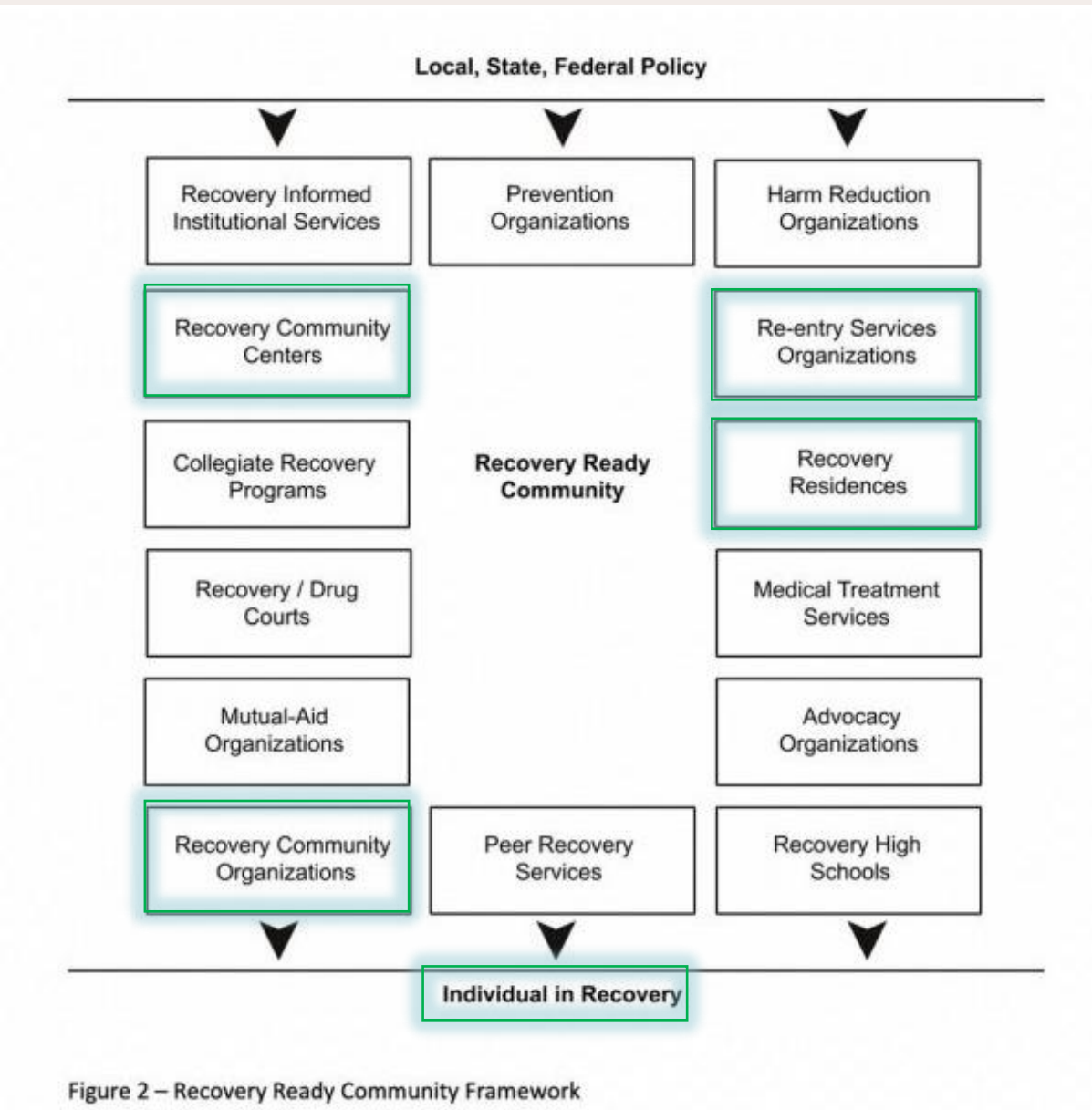


Figure 1 – Recovery Ready Ecosystems Model

Ashford, Brown, Ryding & Curtis (2019): Building recovery ready communities: the recovery ready ecosystem model and community framework



## Recovery Ready Communities

“Promoting the long-term recovery of individuals in the locations they live and work is critical. Equipping communities with the knowledge to analyse their local resources and services and further improve local recovery infrastructure is an important step in providing individuals the highest chance of long-term success.” (Ashford, Brown, Ryding & Curtis 2019, p.9)

Ashford, Brown, Ryding & Curtis (2019): Building recovery ready communities: the recovery ready ecosystem model and community framework



Are the approaches that we adopt to research, evaluate and understand these communities, also recovery ready?

How can I prepare myself and this research or evaluation to be 'recovery ready' so that it is inviting, accessible and mutually beneficial in some way, for recovery community members?"

How can we integrate research and evaluation into our services/programmes/residences so that it is beneficial to the development of the recovery initiative and to the community members we serve?"

*Thank you*

*Any Questions?*

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## References

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