

# About Us



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# Welcome to The Choopers Foundation.

The Choopers Foundation is the not for profit side of [Chooper's Guide](#), a comprehensive addiction treatment and information resource. Founded by [Timothy Cheney](#) and [Adrian S. Hooper, Jr.](#) in 2015 (Mr. Hooper resigned in 2018), our primary objectives are to elevate awareness of addiction as a disease, promote social justice, influence drug policy and to educate providers and the public.

The Choopers Foundation provides financial assistance to harm reduction and recovery community initiatives and focuses on innovative projects and programs that address the needs of the underserved.

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## WHO ~ THE CHOOPERS FOUNDATION

### OUR VISION

We envision a time when substance use disorders will be accepted and treated, without discrimination, as a healthcare condition and that all persons suffering from addictive disorders regardless of socioeconomic status have equal access to quality treatment and no longer subjected to sanctions imposed by the criminal justice system.

### OUR MISSION

### OUR OBJECTIVES

- To elevate societal awareness of substance use disorder as a biopsychosocial disorder  
To promote and support the philosophies and practices of Harm Reduction
- To support innovative treatment and recovery initiatives
- To promote tolerance and acceptance of all paths in treatment and recovery
- To assist in eradicating discrimination
- To educate the public, treatment and recovery community about sociolinguistics and the power language has on informing societal perception and promulgating discrimination
- To promote the importance of equal access to quality treatment for the under served populations

## **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

- We also believe that substance use/abuse is a manifestation of a underlying systemic social disorder characterized by economic and racial inequality and the erosion of informal social institutions and communities.
- We believe that the myth of mental illness and addiction was scribed over a century ago and that there exists a great divide between current bio-psycho-social knowledge and the language used today.
- We believe this archaic language impacts societal perception, perpetuates polarization and discrimination of the afflicted and violates human rights.
- We believe that the economic interests of corporate America influence, and in many cases, dictate healthcare and criminal justice policy and inhibit or preclude social change.
- We believe that every human being has “unalienable Rights” to equal access to treatment and to recovery.

# **OUR CAUSES**

## **HARM REDUCTION**

We support Harm Reduction Programs that provide services to not for profit urban and rural programs. Services include syringe exchange, Hepatitis C and HIV testing, wound management. We use this term as it is commonly used and associated with these activities however we believe that the term is derisive and would rather use the phrase “early client engagement” (Rick Ohrstom – Chairman of C4 Recovery Solutions) as it is the foremost front line intervention or first contact.

## **OVERDOSE PREVENTION**

Death by overdose has surpassed automobile traffic fatalities as the leading cause of accidental death in the US. We support overdose prevention initiatives for opioids which include first responder and community education, training and naloxone (NARCAN) distribution.

## **RECOVERY COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

We believe that a sense of community and connection are critical components in building and sustaining recovery. Isolation is characteristic for those suffering from the disease of addiction as a result of individual trauma and the society’s marginalization of the “addict” resulting in the formation of a deviant subculture (dissocial community). Recovery community centers offer the key components of a community including: territory; close and informal relationships; mutuality; common values and beliefs; organized interaction; strong group feeling and cultural similarity.

## OPEN SOURCE DATA RESOURCES

We provide technology consulting and assistance in developing open data source solutions for not for profits that promote access to prevention, treatment and recovery resources.

## Meet Our Team



Timothy W. Cheney President

### **Tim Cheney ~ Bio**

Tim is the managing partner of The Choopers Foundation and Chooper's Guide, a comprehensive addiction treatment and information and resource web portal. He also owns and operates Clark's Cove Farm & Inn in Maine.

Tim has been involved professionally and personally with addiction treatment, research and advocacy for thirty five years and has been in continuous recovery since July of 1981.

He received a BA. from Boston University in Sociology (Summa Cum Laude with Distinction, Phi Beta Kappa), attended Yale Divinity School and holds designations of Certified Personnel

Consultant and Certified International Personnel Consultant.

Professionally, he has worked within the addiction industry as the Director of Research, City of Boston Drug Treatment Program, Acting Director of Boston's largest Methadone Program and the Program Director at the Community Correctional Center in New Haven, CT. He is a past member of the Community Correspondents Group (Now CEWG) as the Boston SMSA representative (five NIDA epidemiological publications). He also introduced Narcotics Anonymous into the Connecticut State Prison system in 1983 and was the first delegate for harm reduction advocacy at the 1979 NIDA conference in Seattle.

He was the Founder and President of two Connecticut based human resource and technology companies that he sold to an international public company where he served as SVP and Regional Executive and went on to become Chairman of the International Division and negotiated the staffing industry's first cooperation agreements with the Chinese Government

Tim has been active in the substance abuse and child welfare communities for thirty two years. He serves or recently on the following boards: Children's Home Society of the Treasure Coast, Floridians for Recovery, Faces and Voices of Recovery, Substance Abuse Awareness Council of Indian River and is a Member of Leadership Council for the Association of Recovery Organizations (ARCO). Additionally, he is a member of the Kennedy Forum, an Advisory Board member of Orion Bionetworks and was recently seated on the Maine Substance Abuse Services Commission.

He is the recipient of the following advocacy awards:

Children's Home Society of Florida – Treasure Coast Division –  
The David & Lorraine Thomas Child Advocate Award (2009)

Congressional Award – Flag of the United States for Advocacy  
with Foster Children (2009)

Guardian AD Litem 19TH Judicial District – Florida Annual Child Advocacy Award (2006)

The Presidents Call to Service- Lifetime Achievement Award (2013).

C4 Recovery Solutions Award of Excellence at the 2015 Cape Cod Symposium on Addictive Disorders (with Adrian Hooper)



Rebecca Emmons Director - Registered Agent

## **Rebecca Emmons ~ Bio**

Rebecca has been the attorney for Chooper's Guide since 2010 and the attorney for The Choopers Foundation from the onset. She functions as a strategic legal advisor and the registered agent for the foundation.

**Practice Areas:** Tax Exempt Entity Creation; Nonprofit and Charitable Organizations; Business Law; Contracts; Corporate Law; Estate Planning; Probate;

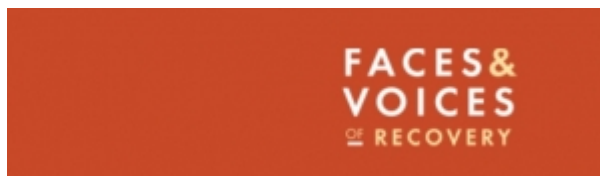
**Admitted:** 1999, Ohio; 2000, Florida

**Law School:** Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 1999

- **College:** Clarion University of Pennsylvania, B.A., *cum laude*, 1996
- **Member:** The Florida Bar; American Bar Association; Indian River County Bar Association; Indian River Real Property Council. Named "Top 40 Under 40", Vero Life Magazine, 2009
- National Finals, Best Brief, American Bar Association, National Appellate Advocacy Competition 1998
- First Place Team, Best Brief, John Marshall Law School, National Moot Court Competition in Information Technology & Privacy Law, 1998
- Chairperson (1998-1999) and Member (1997-1998), Cleveland-Marshall Moot Court Board of Governors; Articles Editor, Cleveland State Law Review, 1997-1999
- Member, National Order of Barristers.
- State College, Pennsylvania

## OUR PARTNERS





The Choopers Foundation is organized to raise and distribute monies for the treatment and prevention of substance use, abuse and addiction and for any other charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time (the "Code") or corresponding

provisions of any subsequent, tax laws. The corporation may, as permitted by law, engage in any and all activities in furtherance of, related to, or incidental to those purposes which may lawfully be carried on by a corporation formed under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, and which are not inconsistent with the corporation's qualification under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Choopers Foundation is a registered Corporation in the State of Florida and is recognized by the IRS as exempt under section 501 (c) (3) under the Internal Revenue Code.