PHOENIX SOCIETY FOR BURN SURVIVORS

Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors is the leading national nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering people affected by a burn injury. Phoenix Society serves burn survivors, loved ones, burn care professionals, researchers, and anyone else committed to supporting the burn community and building a safer world.

PHOENIX SOAR (SURVIVORS OFFERING ASSISTANCE IN RECOVERY)

Phoenix SOAR (Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery), developed in 2001, is a signature program of Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors and an integral part of the Journey Forward Program, connecting survivors and their support systems with others who have experienced similar trauma (trained Peer Supporters). Phoenix SOAR was designed by a national advisory team of healthcare professionals and burn survivors to provide a structured volunteer peer support program. This training program is designed to provide insight, knowledge, and communication skills necessary for the peer supporter to interact with survivors and families who have experienced a burn injury. The program also enables the burn programs to develop motivated and trained peer supporters functioning as an extension of your burn team.

WHY DOES PHOENIX SOAR MATTER?

A burn injury can trigger feelings of helplessness, stress, shock, numbness, loneliness, low self-esteem, and/or fear of the future. Burn survivors, and their families often struggle in isolation with their emotions and pain. Family and friends in the support network may be struggling with a different set of problems than the burn survivor; therefore, they may have difficulty relating to and supporting each other.

Contact us at phoenixsoar@phoenix-society.org to learn more and get started today!
PROGRAM GOALS

After recovering from a burn injury, many survivors look for ways to give back. They may also want to help other survivors. Phoenix SOAR was designed to be easily implemented by burn support professionals. This program is designed to enable local agencies to train motivated volunteers while minimizing the expenditure of staff resources.

Goals of the Phoenix SOAR program include:

- Offering a standardized training program for peer supporters and coordinators
- Promoting the development of peer support programs around the country and internationally
- Providing greater access to peer support for survivors
- Facilitating collaboration between burn centers, burn support organizations and the Phoenix Society
- Facilitating ongoing collaboration between survivors and the health care team
- Creating a national repository of information for burn programs and burn survivors

"Phoenix Society is committed to working closely with each of our burn program partners, as well as with our Phoenix SOAR volunteers, to build and deepen the relationships with survivors and their families. We know outcomes are better when we reach survivors early in their journey.

- Amy Acton, CEO of Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors"
HOW TO START A PHOENIX SOAR PROGRAM IN YOUR BURN PROGRAM

- Identify Lead Coordinators (at least two) and one coordinator must be a burn team member.
- Recruit additional coordinators from different disciplines and areas within your burn program (inpatient, outpatient, aftercare, rehabilitation).
- Secure one-time initiation fee.
- Register Phoenix SOAR coordinator candidates for a coordinator’s course.
  - You have one-year from the receipt of fees to enroll coordinator candidates for the initial training.
- Phoenix Society will supply all materials for the program and course.

PHOENIX SOAR COORDINATOR TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- Asynchronous (on-your-own) pre-course modules (2-hours)
- A scheduled virtual training course (2.5-hours)
- Read the Coordinator Manual prior to the course
- Complete post-course evaluations for course review and continuing education credits

Coordinator courses are held every quarter of the year.

PHOENIX SOAR PEER SUPPORTER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Peer Supporter candidates will be recruited, interviewed, and trained after Phoenix SOAR Coordinators are trained.

- Asynchronous (on-your-own) pre-course modules (4-hours) completed within 2-weeks prior to the virtual group training
- Read the Peer Supporter Manual prior to the course
- A scheduled virtual training course (4-hours) with other peer supporter candidates from other Phoenix SOAR programs
- Complete post-course evaluations for course review
- On-boarding and orientation to the burn program with a Lead Coordinator

Total participant time is approximately 8 hours.

Peer Supporter courses are held every other month.