

11/18/16 Peer Specialist Committee Minutes

Attending: Jean Dedie, Karen Lane (call in) Alice Pauser, John Holzschuh, Laleña Lampe, Shelly Monroe, Joan Sternweis, Ellie Jarvie

Items Covered:

Peer Specialist Update- see full report. Discussion- outreach to counties will occur once the new training is available. Alice and Laleña are seeing a trend of private agencies showing an interest in employing peer specialists. Discussion about job descriptions that list duties such as med monitoring and UA's. This needs to be addressed as the new curriculum is in development. Review of the Certified Peer Specialist map- positive reflections on the progress of certified peer specialist program throughout the state. Reminders of the current organizations out there for parent to parent support – the parent to parent program, Wisconsin Family Ties. Certified Parent Peer Specialists will be a broadening of resources already available, and a development of the infrastructure. Parallels to the development of Certified Peer Specialist program were drawn.

Peer Association- no updates, will address at the next meeting

Code of Ethics Proposal Progress- DCTS will approve the new language. This will make the lines clearer around sexual/ financial boundaries. It is important to continue to have conversations around Ethics and check in with one another. Supervision is important, so is ongoing training.

MHA Letter-

At this time, we don't feel a letter is needed, we want to learn more about the issue.

Luann has been in contact with Patrick Henry from MHA on this issue- national certification is being pursued due to insurance issues. Discussions on pros and cons- Can this open up issues if someone passes the state exam but not the national exam? The problem is issues of access when they are covered by one insurance and not another- for example, what occurs now with substance use counselors. This isn't an issue as much with Medicaid programs, but more with other insurance plans. This is an issue we need think through and watch. This should be something we watch, we will make the standing agenda item National Certification of Peer Specialists.

Who is their stakeholder group on this issue? Can we get someone from Wisconsin in on this process? Can we invite Shel Gross to discuss this with the whole RITF or Peer Specialist Committee? We can ask at the whole RITF if this should be discussed at the committee or full group level

Update on meeting with the SCAODA (Wisconsin State Council on Alcohol and other drug abuse)

Diversity Committee - Luann, Shelly and Karen discussed the history and roles of peer specialists. This was meant to be a short item, but turned into a rich one hour discussion. Some topics covered- the role and issues of Deaf people, diversity in general, questions about relapse, timelines on being sober. This was good outreach to those with a more present voice and experience in the Substance Use community. Follow up will be important.

Discussion on new logo for WICPS- Alice is suggesting we refresh the logo and the website. Discussion on employers contacting WICPS to get on the listserv. The time to do a coordinate push to employers is once the new curriculum is launched, perhaps an informational memo could be used? Positive stories

about Peer Specialists could be featured on the website. Updated information to CCS structures and best practices on supervision. Joan reflected that the website is incredibly helpful.

Brief update on the Re-entry peer specialist project for Peer Specialists with the lived experience of incarceration, this project is being rolled out by the Grassroots Empowerment project. Also there are preliminary discussions about peer specialists within the prison system.

Next Agenda Items-

Ethics and boundaries for Peer Relationships. Nancy Peirce who trains around ethics and boundaries is interested in this. This could be a training offered statewide. Mark Sweet from DRW also has some material that could be useful, the recovery coach model has good material here as well. Perhaps a self-reflection guide or online training as well? This is an important topic to have in an interactive format. A blog or online message board- closed Facebook group? We need to be cognizant that these are not privacy protected forums.

Peer Association Update

National Certification of Peer Specialists- Shel Gross could assist (consider as a rolling agenda Item)

New logo for WICPS – for full RITF agenda, ask for submissions, make it a contest?

Pre- CPS Training

Submissions for Conferences/ Activities (Rolling Agenda item)

Public Comment - Interesting, sometimes was hard to follow acronyms. Michigan's test is more difficult- it is essay and short answer.

What went well? Finished early, good dialogue, the last year to year and a half there has been good interactions, respectful interactions. Much more gets accomplished, looking forward to new agenda items - it is reenergizing,

What to improve – watch the acronyms

*Ask for a member of the RITF to be on the mental health and substance use conference planning committee, will do at today's meeting

A booth for RITF at the conference next year? Perhaps sharing with SCAODA and the WI mental health council