

Peer Specialist Minutes- 9/16/16

LuAnn Simpson, Amy Payne, Shelley Monroe, Mark Dolan, John Holszuch, Ed Erwin, Alice Pauser, Rich Mahotka,

Guests: Brittyn Calyx, Adam Maleug, Jenny Larson, Danielle Graham-Heine,

Presenters- William Parke-Sutherland, Bob Fredericks

Peer Specialist Coordinator Update-

Statistics on last exam were given; Sept 28 is the last exam under the old curriculum; 27 people are signed up to take the exam. If people do not pass this exam, they will need to take the new curriculum.

PPS- core documents on the website; internal workgroup is finalizing the trainer application, other items in development.

Discussion on the employer toolkit- Bob reported that they are looking at a scope broader than just certified peer support. Question about how groups doing peer support outside of certification are being engaged, such as peer run respites. William requested that peer run staff be able to review before this is published

Please see the full report for more info; it is posted under the Peer Specialist Committee.

Discussion on the Peer Association-

William reported on a meeting that occurred last night, the history and challenges of the previous association was discussed. Discussion of the role of this association, advising the state on policies, educational offerings, pooling of benefits/ discounts, advocating on behalf of the peer specialist with agencies, quality issues with peer specialists, support and skill building, mentorship. Discussion of support around the needs of peers was a significant part of this meeting.

Grassroots Empowerment Network, Wisconsin Family Ties and Dry Hootch will support this with a grant from SAMHSA.

Q- Do you see this as a membership association with dues?

A- This is the way to make it sustainable, keeping in mind the pay structure of peer specialist, it is not expected that dues will support the association itself.

Q- How is this different than the Dane County peer support network?

A-Different than the Dane County peer support network, it is statewide, intentional focus on fidelity measures to the role. Providing benefits for members in terms of connection, mentorship, right now there is no advocacy body to be sure that Peer Specialists practice within their scope of practice.

Q- Is this a stand-alone association?

A-A non-entity joint venture will be created between Wi Family Ties, Dry Hootch and Wi Family Ties, this will not be incorporated. It could become independent at some point.

Q- Would there be an option for employers to be involved as allies?

A- Initially no, the focus is on advocacy for peer specialists, over time possibly they will have some role.

Q- How does this differ than INAPS?

A- This is a state wide organization, broader than one curriculum.

One concern is the financial viability long-term.

Discussion- should the Peer Specialist Committee have official representation on the advisory body to the association, and vice-versa? Support from many in the committee.

Discussion of a union type structure- this is not the focus, it's not about unionizing, but voluntary membership.

Wisconsin Council on Special Services was highlighted as an example of an organization that works well for its members.

It was agreed that William will discuss with his partners and come back and discuss the idea of reciprocal representation with the Peer Specialist committee at the next meeting. William will follow up directly with Luann.

Code of Ethics-

The language in question is: I will also not enter into dual relationships or commitments that may conflict with the interests of the peer such as buying or selling items, services or goods.

It was noted that this specific language was used to mirror the parent peer specialist.

Amend to the more general- I will not enter into dual relationships or commitments that may conflict with the support needs of the peer. (Remove the last clause)

Discussion about the word "intimate" does this need more clarification?

Sam suggested the one page document created by Laleña to help clarify this issue. Will discuss this at the next meeting.

Motion from Sam, second by Alice. Amend to the more general- I will also not enter into dual relationships or commitments that may conflict with the support needs of the peers. (Remove the last clause) Motion passes.

MHA letter response-Discussion about the focus and purpose of this letter.

There are question about what the purpose of national certification, a s a move to access MA reimbursement. What is the main goal here? Those who are going to alternative can gather more information and report back. (Future agenda item).

Other agenda items-

Dory to present at both the full RITF and the Peer Specialist committee. Ellie will follow up with Dory and ask about her availability

Addressing the needs of diversity for this committee. Exploring people whose first language is Spanish through the Peer Specialist Program. Hmong community- are native American populations involved? Students 18-21 is an important group we are missing, schools are struggling to meet the needs of these students. Ellie is meeting with professionals from the Onalaska area. Central Hispano may be a good connection. Discussion

Pre-peer specialist training-

What went well- Staying on task, the last few meetings agenda has been followed, people are respectful

Every effort was made to include those on the phone

Improvable- agendas and materials to Ellie earlier for submission on the website

Phone - work on passing across the room, sit closer

Thank you all for being here.

