OhioMHAS Peer Recovery Supporter Certification

Recovery Conference

Mindy L. Vance, Bureau Chief
OhioMHAS will begin formally certifying Peer Recovery Supporters July 1, 2016.

Peer Recovery Supporters in an all-inclusive term consisting of peer specialists, recovery coaches, and peer supporters.

In order to have a formal certification, individuals delivering peer services needed to have one title for consistency.

Peer Recovery Supporter was chosen as it represents the three largest sections of the current peer workforce.
Individuals eligible to apply to be a Certified Peer Recovery Supporter include:

- Individuals with a direct lived experience of a mental health and/or substance use disorder who are in recovery
- In Ohio, the definition of recovery is: The personal process of change in which Ohio residents strive to improve their health and wellness, resiliency, and reach their full potential through self-directed actions.
Certification Basics

- Individuals interested in becoming certified will need to:
  - Complete an application
  - Submit 2 references
  - Submit a recent Bureau of Criminal Investigations background check (within 30 days of submitting the application)
  - Submit proof of completion of a 40 hour in-person peer services training OR 3 years work/volunteer experience
  - Submit proof of completion of 16 hours of E-Based Academy Courses
  - Submit a signed copy of Code of Ethics
  - Pass the Ohio Peer Supporter Exam
Certification Basics Continued

- For individuals who need to take E-Based Academy courses, please visit http://www.ebasedacademy.org/lms/.
- Currently, many of the peer services specific 16 hours are available and more courses will continue to be added. More text here.
Integrated Peer Supporters

- For individuals who have taken the OhioMHAS Peer Supporter Training, the 12 hours of E-Based Academy courses that were already taken will be honored.
- In order to make up the 4 additional hours, individuals who have taken the OhioMHAS Peer Supporter Training will only need to take both the Ethics and Boundaries and Supervising Peers courses.
Approved 40 Hour In-person Peer Trainings

- Examples of approved 40 hour in-person peer services training models include:
- Appalachian Consulting
- OhioMHAS Peer Supporter Training
- Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)
- InterNational Association of Peer Specialists (INAPS)
- Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Certified Peer Specialist training
- Michigan Department of Community Health Peer Support Specialist Training
- North Carolina Peer Support Specialists training
If you have taken or are interested in taking a training not listed, please contact the Bureau of Recovery Supports (ohiopeersupport@mha.ohio.gov) to ensure the training meets core competencies required by OhioMHAS.

Application packets will be sent to the Peer Center, a Consumer Operated Service in Columbus.

A dedicated Peer Center staff member will review application packets for completeness.

If an application is not complete, they will contact the applicant and provide further instruction.

If an application is complete, it will be delivered in-person to OhioMHAS.

All applications, regardless of status, will be kept in a locked filing cabinet.
Application Process

- Completed application packets should be mailed or e-mailed to Lisa Kiner.
- The PEER Center
  Attn: Lisa Kiner
  1221 E Broad St
  Columbus, OH 43205
- lkiner@thepeercenter.org
Recertification

- Peer Recovery Support Certifications are good for a period of 2 years.
- Certified Peer Recovery Supporters will complete the re-certification application 60 days prior to the date the certification expires.
- In addition to completing the re-certification exam, applicants will need to submit proof of completion of 30 hours of Continuing Education Credits (CEU) to include trainings on trauma informed care and ethics and boundaries.
- CEU hours that can count towards the recertification must be earned between the effective date of the certification and date the recertification application is submitted.
• As with other professional and licensure and certifications, it is necessary for individuals to remain in good standing in order to maintain certification.
• The Ohio Peer Recovery Supporter Code of Ethics is the professional standard of conduct for certification.
• When working for a provider, Consumer Operated Service, or other organization, it is crucial to abide by their employee code of conduct and code of ethics.
Supervising Peers

- Who can supervise Certified Peer Recovery Supporters?
Considerations for Specialized Recovery Services

• Funding opportunities for Peer Recovery Services may be funded in a variety of ways.
• Currently, the majority of funding for PRS comes through Mental Health and Recovery Boards and grant opportunities.
• Beginning July 1, PRS may be funded by Medicaid under Specialized Recovery Services (1915i) for individuals eligible for the program. In order to bill Medicaid, the Peer Recovery Supporter and provider must be certified through OhioMHAS for peer services and their results for their background check must meet Columns A, B, C, D, and E of the attached document or you may reference 5122-29-15.1 & 5160-43-09.
Ohio Peer Recovery Supporter Certification

• The E-Based Academy may be accessed at http://www.ebasedacademy.org/lms/.

• All forms including the certification application, recertification application, code of ethics, etc. may be accessed at http://mha.ohio.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=712.
Questions?