

PATHWAYS FOR PEERS

PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

PEER-BASED RECOVERY-ORIENTED SYSTEMS OF CARE OPPORTUNITIES AND INITIATIVES CURRENTLY SUPPORTED BY NJ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES (DMHAS)

Recovery Centers

 DMHAS provides funding for two peer-led volunteer-driven recovery centers for individuals in recovery from substance use disorders. The Recovery Community Center located in Paterson is operated by Eva's Village, and in Camden, the Center for Family Services operates the Living Proof Recovery Center. Recovery Centers are a place where those in recovery can find help, fellowship, and a safe haven. Peer workers provide mentoring, coaching, care coordination, social and recreation activities, life skills and vocational training, support groups, wellness classes, workshops, and other assistance.

State Targeted Opioid Response Initiative (STORI) and Support Team for Addiction Recovery (STAR)

 The goals and objectives are to address the opioid crisis confronting the State using a variety of strategies, increase access to treatment, reduce unmet treatment need, and reduce opioid related deaths. A new fee for service treatment network (providing all levels of care) will include peers who will provide recovery support to clients in a variety of settings.

Recovery Support on College Campuses

 DMHAS sponsors recovery support services at Rutgers University and The College of New Jersey. This initiative enables the schools to provide recovery and substance-free housing to students in recovery, students at risk of a Substance Use Disorder, and students not in recovery but who choose not to misuse alcohol and illicit drugs, with a supportive community that promotes physical, psychological, social, and spiritual health. Students support each other's sobriety while forming meaningful personal relationships based around friendship, recovery, and their college experiences.

Maternal Wrap Around Services

DMHAS provides statewide funding for the maternal wraparound program (M-WRAP) for opioid-dependent pregnant women. MWRAP combines intensive case management and recovery support services for women during pregnancy and up to one year after giving birth. Intensive case management will focus on developing a single, coordinated care plan for pregnant/postpartum women, their children and families. Recovery Support Specialists will provide non-clinical assistance and recovery supports.

Opioid Overdose Recovery Program (OORP)



The purpose of the OORP is to provide support services to individuals reversed from opioid overdoses and treated at hospital emergency departments. The OORP utilizes specially trained peers to engage reversed individuals, provide recovery supports, non-clinical assistance, and appropriate referrals for assessment and treatment. When an individual has been reversed from an overdose, recovery specialists are notified and deployed within one hour. OORP workers, many of whom are in recovery themselves, follow-up with these individuals for at least eight weeks. In most instances services are provided 24 hours a day by part-time OORP workers in all 21 counties.

Law Enforcement Assisted Addiction and Recovery Referral Program (LEAARRP)



DMHAS is developing a community peer curriculum and training for those peers who are working as volunteers in police departments as part of the Law Enforcement Assisted Addiction and Recovery Referral Program (LEAARRP). In general, the role of the volunteers is to educate and assist individuals on how to appropriately navigate treatment, social service, and recovery support systems by empowering individuals to make self-determined and self-directed choices about their recovery pathway. Recruitment will be administered through police departments who choose to participate in the LEAARRP program. Further details will be forthcoming.

Intensive Recovery Treatment Support (IRTS)

The NJ Department of Corrections (DOC), DMHAS and Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care (UBHC) seek to expand pre and post release recovery support services to individuals within DOC with an opioid use disorder or other substance use and facilitate continuity of care and treatment that includes comprehensive medical, substance use treatment and social services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PEER-BASED RECOVERY SERVICES, VISIT NJPN.ORG



PATHWAYS FOR PEERS

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAININGS

There are several pathways for peer training in New Jersey depending on the specific setting the peer is working in as well as whether the position is a DMHAS funded initiative. Not all positions require formal training and/ or certification. Peer roles in some settings or program models may require differing skills and abilities and/ or advanced or specialized competencies.

Certifications

Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS)



Issued by the Addiction Professionals Certification Board, Inc. (APCB), the CPRS requires training in the core areas of advocacy, ethical responsibility, mentoring education, and recovery/ wellness support. Candidates must possess a high school diploma or GED, 500 hours of peer recovery work or volunteer experience, and 25 Supervised Practicum Hours specific to peer recovery. The IC&RC exam will currently allow reciprocity for the CPRS in 19 states. The APCB will be accepting peer recovery training towards certification as long as it meets the IC&RC's CPRS learning objectives. **CPRS test exemption offer has been extended to October 1, 2019.**

Nationally Certified Peer Recovery Support Specialist (NCPRSS)



The NCPRSS is Issued by the National Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors, (NAADAC), The Association for Addiction Professionals. The purpose of the experiential-based NCPRSS credential is to standardize the knowledge and competency of peer support to individuals with substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders. Candidates must possess a high school diploma or GED, and are required to complete at least 60 contact hours of peer recovery focused education and training. Applicants must have a minimum of 200 hours of direct practice (volunteer or paid) in a peer recovery support environment (supervisor-attested), achieve a passing score on the NCPRSS examination, and possess a minimum two years of recover from Substance Use/Co-Occurring Mental Health Disorders (self-attestation), if applicable. **Test required.**

DMHAS Pathways for Peer Workers

As described above, NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) supports multiple pathways for peer training and credentialing and encourages individuals to meet SAMHSA's core competencies for Peer Workers in behavioral health to effectively provide recovery support services. For details, please see:

https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/programs_campaigns/brss_tac/core-competencies.pdf DMHAS endorses the CPRS and NCPRSS certifications for peer workers within DMHAS initiatives. Each certification has specific eligibility requirements, the DMHAS required 3-day (18 hour) Ethics training plus the 5 day (30 hour) CCAR training are approved foundation courses applied to both credentials.

Certified Recovery Support Professional (CRSP)



Issued by the Addiction Professional Certification Board, the CRSP credential is for mental health consumers who are working or seeking to work in the mental health and/ or co-occurring fields. This credential focuses on services and activities to support recovery. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED, 500 hours of mental health work or volunteer experience, 108 hours of CORE training courses, and completion of an 18- hour Wellness and Recovery Action Plan training including 110 hours of Supervision within a program licensed or state funded, to provide Mental Health Services taken within five specific to peer recovery.

Trainings

CCAR Training

The Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) Recovery Coach Academy describes recovery coaches as anyone interested in promoting recovery by removing barriers and obstacles to recovery and serving as a personal guide and mentor for people seeking or already in recovery. The CCAR Recovery Coach Academy is a 5-day/30 hour intensive training focusing on providing individuals with the skills to enter or sustain long-term recovery. Over 10,000 coaches have been trained and participated in the CCAR curriculum nationwide. CCAR trainings must be registered through CCAR/CART and certificates must be issued directly from CCAR/CART (Center for Addiction Recovery Training).

Ethics Training

The Peer Ethics Training is a non-clinical, 3-day, 18-hour entry level training for individuals providing peer recovery support services in NJ. This training assists peer workers to recognize the importance of ethical responsibility. Using interactive and engaging activities, participants will gain the skills & knowledge needed to feel confident in their abilities to assist individuals with their recovery process. Provided by NJPN, this training can be applied to the initial NJ Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS) and the NAADAC National Certified Peer Recovery Support Specialist (NCPRSS) credentials. This is also a mandated training for all Peers working in DMHAS funded organizations who are contracted to provide peer recovery support services.