

Class Concept

The Peer Support Specialist provides engagement to clients/patients with substance use and/or mental health disorders. Position works with clients/patients pre, during, and post admission to support continuity of services by building trust and rapport with clients/patients, offering mentorship, emotional support, and encouragement throughout the recovery journey. Position provides advocacy and support services from a non-clinical perspective in inpatient, outpatient, community, and residential settings. Position assists clients/patients in identifying their strengths, developing and practicing healthy coping strategies, and navigating the challenges of recovery, empowering clients/patients to articulate their own goals, reinforce self-efficacy, and promote empowerment through peer connection. Position develops relationships with public and private community resources and outreach support to connect clients/patients and provide information/contacts to services, such as housing, food, and medical assistance. Position transports and accompanies clients/patients to facilitate access to services.

Recruitment Standards

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Ability to create and maintain records, notes, and reports of client/patient progress and behaviors.
- Ability to support adults in both group and one-on-one settings.
- Ability to effectively communicate with community/outreach service providers, persons with substance use and/or mental health disorders, treatment team members, and clinical staff in verbal and written forms.
- Ability to develop effective working relationships with clinical professionals involved in treating substance use and/or mental health disorders.

Minimum Education and Experience

High school or General Educational Development diploma; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Must possess and maintain a valid state driver's license.

Note: This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA.