



RULE MEMORANDUM

Date: December 29, 2015

To: Interested Constituents

From: Howard Henry, Staff Counsel

Subject: Proposed Rule

- 5122-29-15 Peer Recovery Services
- 5122-29-15.1 Certified peer recovery service provider

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) is proposing the following Ohio Administrative Code rule actions. Please review these draft proposed rule actions and provide any comments you may have **by January 21, 2015**. **Comments will automatically be forwarded to the Common Sense Initiative Office.**

Pursuant to the requirements of EO 2011-01K and Senate Bill 2 of the 129th General Assembly, which requires state agencies, including OhioMHAS, to draft rules in collaboration with stakeholders, assess and justify any adverse impact on the business community (as defined by SB2), and provide opportunity for the affected public to provide input on the rules.

The proposed rule sets forth the requirements of both a new service which OhioMHAS certified service providers may provide, and a professional certification obtainable through the Department. Rule 5122-29-15 describes the service and the conditions under which the service may be provided. Peer recovery is a service intended for those with mental illness or a substance use disorder, or both, and is intended to support that person's recovery. The service may be provided in a number of ways and settings, but must be provided by someone who is qualified to do provide the service.

Rule 5122-29-15.1 sets forth the requirements for becoming a certified peer recovery service provider. An individual wishing to obtain this certification must pass criminal records check, obtain training, pass a Department administered test, and be in recovery themselves.

The peer recovery service is one of the services that can be provided by a provider certified by the Department pursuant to OAC Chapter 5122-25. Providing the service as a certified service provider is primarily done so as to enable funding through Medicaid, a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services, or similar funding source listed in OAC 5122-25-01. In order to provide the service as a certified provider, the provider must use individuals who have received the professional certification as set forth in proposed 5122-29-15.1.

Those engaged in peer recovery work currently that do not wish to work with Medicaid or other state payer sources, may continue to do the work they are engaged in. In order to have peer



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services as a Medicaid billable service, the Department must seek out a professional certification process. Currently, no other state agency or board is certifying peer recovery professionals, and the Department is taking on the task to allow for the Medicaid service.

The rules have been submitted to the CSI office for review; and comments regarding the rules can be submitted through the link on the OhioMHAS website. Comments submitted through the link will be sent to OhioMHAS and the CSI office. Comments may be sent directly to CSIPublicComments@governor.ohio.gov or MH-SOT-rules@mha.ohio.gov.