

State wide Technical Assistance Meeting

Present: Adam Anderson, Sharon Fitzpatrick

Recorder: Francine Roman

Adam Anderson Reports:

- There is a great need for providers for people who are transitioning out of a nursing home. Community Support Coach is to be the cheerleader for someone as they are making the major life change to move from an institution where everything was taken care of for them. It empowers them and guides them along the way. It's a service that can start when somebody is still in a nursing home. It becomes very intimidating for people coming out of a nursing home so if the Community Support Coach is there it can make a big difference. The difference is communicating about how that process might work helping people make independent choices, setting goals, helping with tasks, helping with problem solving, helping with trying different resources and potentially helping them identify employment after the transition. You can be a provider with an agency or you can be independent. Lived experience with using substances or having a mental illness those are the types of things about having lived experience. You have worked through the same things I am working through can you help me? Anybody who has done the NAMI stuff would be certified, simply by having lived experience will make you eligible for a Community Support Coach.
- How much do they get paid as a Community Support Coach? If you are a Community Support Coach you can do up to 72 hours per year. The current rate is \$25 an hour per person you work with. It's for anybody who is utilizing Home Choice. You can be a provider with an agency or you can be completely independent. Who do you contact to get connected? You could email Home Choice the email is: home_choice@medicaid.ohio.gov and just explain that you are interested in becoming a Community Support Coach. Internally we have some of that information at OhioMHAS. At the Peer Support conference Home Choice will actually be there and you can sign up at the conference.
- Independent Living Skills Trainer is basically assistance in providing additional information in resources to help people live more independently. Instrumental activities in daily living, these folks who have been in a nursing home for three years and they haven't had the opportunity to balance their own check book, they haven't had to take care of all these basic things that we do everyday living in communities. The Independent Skills Trainer helps them work through doing all of these things again. If you need help establishing a bank account and taking care of legal issues, repairs to your home, going shopping, checking your email, all of those kind of things. These are folks that have had lived experience and can explain most of those things. Independent Skills Trainers can work up to 144 hours and the pay rate is \$30 an hour. There are all sorts of opportunities with the Independent Skills Trainer. In Lucas County Ohio there are no Community Support Coaches or Independent Skills Training peers, there is literally no one they can go to.

- We are one of the best in the nation at transitioning people with mental illness than any other state combined. If you are interested connect with Sharon and connect with Home Choice. People with licenses have options also connect with Home Choice for those opportunities.
- Discussion on rule 5160-51-04. If you have any questions you can send questions to the peer support mailbox.

Sharon Fitzpatrick Reports:

- For those of you who have not submitted an email to be part of the Technical Assistance distribution list you can email to peersupport@mha.ohio.gov and request to be placed on the email list.
- Our schedule of presenters for next month - the first one will be Home Choice which ties into what Adam was discussing today. In June Home Choice will present, in July we will have Meagan McNeil from Ohio Empowerment Coalition to talk about continuing education units.
- The department is hosting its first Peer Service Conference on June 8th and June 9th at the Holiday Inn in Worthington. On our website you will be able to register for the conference. The conference is free and it's offering CEU's, there will be no food provided. People who will be staying at the Holiday Inn will be provided a coupon for breakfast but food will be on our own.
- Here at the department we are striving to make that balance between mental health and addiction, an example is the Integrated Model the curriculum. The Medicaid waiver 1915 I is up for public comment.
- The Consumer Family Partnership orientation meeting will be on Monday, May 18th from 11am – 2pm. Joey - Will money be available from OhioMHAS for traveling expense. Sharon will offer the forms because the drawdown has been submitted to Mental Health America but if it's not there in two weeks be patient because the funds are moving.
- Tara from Zanesville – Wondering if there are any other peer supporters at different agencies who have run into policy problems as a consumer of services as well as a Certified Peer Supporter. An employment offer was retracted because I was a consumer and a recipient of services at the place I was trying to get employed. Response -That is not uncommon for organizations to have policies that require the person hired not be a consumer of services at that organization and it may be because it is very difficult for the staff to protect the confidentiality of the peer staff person if they receive services there before because even though your records are sealed and kept separate that doesn't prevent the natural talk and gossip that happens through the grapevine. It is not uncommon and it is something that organizations look for. Tara - The organization is looking to redefine the policy. My question is more what kind of recommendations for policy change there might be? Response - Most of the language involves confidentiality. Your direct supervisor should not be the person that is was your direct provider. A lot of peer supporters assist with WRAP planning and I would recommend the more experience you have in a variety of environments will build a well-rounded set of experiences to draw upon.

- Sharon- thank you all for joining us, the minutes will be posted on our website. If all will send me your email address to peersupport@mha.ohio.gov and request to be on the email list I can send you the minutes from this meeting.
- If there are things that any of you want to discuss and not in a public forum send an email to peersupport@mha.ohio.gov or sharon.fitzpatrick@mha.ohio.gov also may call (614) 466-0119.