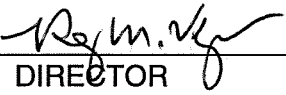




GUAM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER		
<b>TITLE:</b> Peer Support Services	<b>POLICY NO:</b> CL-46	Page 1 of 2
<b>RESPONSIBILITY:</b> Child Adolescent Services Division and Drug and Alcohol Program		
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>  DIRECTOR	<b>EFFECTIVE:</b> JUN 08 2017	
	<b>LAST REVIEWED/REVISED:</b>	

**PURPOSE:**

To define the role of the peer support specialist and the peer support services provided by Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center. To increase understanding, reduce confusion, and provide a path to successful integration of peer support specialists in the delivery of quality services.

**POLICY**

- A. Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center has in its staffing pattern peer support specialist or peer recovery coaches, who provides input in the process of development, designing and implementing peer support services. The Center believes that peer support is a vital component to recovery from mental health and substance abuse conditions.
- B. Peer- run services are based on the principle that individuals who have shared similar experiences can help themselves and each other.
- C. Peer support specialist or Peer Recovery Support Coaches will be provided with a documented competency based training that is based on a recognized peer support curriculum and other trainings related to their roles and duties such as but not limited to
  - a. Personal Advocacy
  - b. Engagement
  - c. Recovery Resiliency Principles; supporting personal recovery goals or building on resiliency.
  - d. Community supports/connection; community networking.
  - e. The effective use of sharing life experiences; mentoring/mentorship.
  - f. Parenting skills as applicable.
  - g. Ongoing training on current practices on peer support services.
  - h. Key concepts and strategies on peer recovery support practice.
  - i. Direct service activities performed by peer support specialist as applicable such as bridging or navigating.
  - j. Confidentiality, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA), and Sexual Assault.
- D. Each peer specialist shall sign the Code of Ethics/Conduct for Peer Specialist.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Peer Support Specialist: are persons who share with others based on their lived experience to encourage, motivate and support consumers and/or their families.

Peer Recovery Support Coaches: are peer specialists that act as a recovery and empowerment catalyst: guiding the recovery process and supporting the individual's goals and decisions.

**REFERENCE(S):**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Financing Center of Excellence; v.2 May 12, 2011. *Recovery Support Services: Peer Recovery Support Coaching Definition* Rockville, Md. available at <https://www.samhsa.gov/recovery/peer-support-social-inclusion>

2016 Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities; *General Program Standards 2.A. Program/Service Structure, Peer Support Services*

**RELATED POLICY (IES):**

**SUPERSEDES:** Title; Policy No.; Effective Date/signature date; Approving individual's name

**ATTACHMENT(S):**