



# Recovery Supports: Peer Specialists

## PROGRAM CORE PURPOSE

The Peer Specialist initiative provides funding and resources to hire, train, and retain persons in recovery to help persons with mental illness and/or substance use disorders to increase treatment engagement, improve functioning, and demonstrate that recovery is possible (e.g. increase hope).

## OUTCOMES

Performance Metric	SFY 2016 Target	SFY 2017 Target	SFY 2012	SFY 2013	SFY 2014	SFY 2015	SFY 2016 <sup>^</sup>
Average # of hours spent in treatment services for persons with a Serious & Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) diagnosis: Persons receiving peer specialist services/persons in treatment not receiving peer specialist services	24	<u>Program eliminated</u>	N/A	N/A	167 (with peer specialist)	180 (with peer specialist)	154 (with peer specialist)
	13				18 (without)	16 (without)	15 (without)
Percentage of persons discharged from treatment who have received peer specialist services who also show improved functioning as measured on the GAF Scale, as compared to persons who did not receive peer specialist services	85%	<u>Program eliminated</u>	N/A	77% (with peer specialists)	79% (with peer specialists) n=245	88% (with peer specialists) n=219	85% (with peer specialists) n=302
				74% (without)	82% (without) n=5,320	81% (without) n= 3,496	69% (without) n= 3,393

<sup>^</sup> SFY16 data has not been finalized due to a system error preventing final data from being uploaded/entered  
N/A indicates data not available due to the creation of a new metric

## OUTPUTS AND EFFICIENCIES

Performance Metric	SFY 2012	SFY 2013	SFY 2014	SFY 2015	SFY <sup>^</sup> 2016	2015 Q1+Q2	2015 Q3+Q4	2016 <sup>^</sup> Q1+Q2	2016 <sup>^</sup> Q3+Q4
<b>OUTPUTS</b>									
# of peer specialists working within the state funded treatment system*	20	14	14	14	13	13	13	13	13
<b>EFFICIENCIES</b>									
% of clients who have a diagnosis of:									
SPMI		10%	12%	12%	13%	9.4%	10.6%	10.4%	9.6%
Substance Use Disorder (SUD)	N/A	10%	14%	12%	16%	10.9%	11.6%	12.7%	12.6%
Other		1%	1%	1.5%	2%	1.0%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%
who received peer specialist services**									
# of clients served per peer specialist**	N/A	58	71	74	79	64	76	77	74
# of peer specialists who have completed the Wyoming training*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	N/A	N/A	N/A	15

<sup>^</sup>SFY 16 data has not been finalized due to a system error preventing final data from being uploaded/entered.  
\* Services provided by agencies with contracts canceled during the FY are not included.  
\*\* This metric reports the average for the combined quarters and annual total.  
N/A indicates data not yet available due to the creation of a new metric  
\* Training program to be established by September of 2016

## STORY BEHIND THE PERFORMANCE

- Program funding ended June 30, 2016 due to legislative budget cuts. While providers are still urged to include this best practice in serving clients with the highest needs, budget cuts resulted in realignment of most of the peer specialists to other roles and waning effort during the last quarter of SFY2016.
- The Division began tracking numbers of persons served, total treatment services, and Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) scores for Peer Specialist Services via the Wyoming Client Information System (WCIS) in SFY 2013. Utilizing the WCIS allows for demonstration that client level outcomes are achieved. The Division worked with peer specialists and their agency directors to focus attention towards recovery outcomes resulting in steady upward trends.
- Wyoming participated in a Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS) Policy Academy to find a more solid way to measure client-level outcomes related to Peer Specialist services provided in community centers and to obtain more consistent inputs via a Wyoming training. This federally funded initiative directly and significantly involves consumers in the project planning and implementation. Research and documents from other states indicate that peer specialist training is positively associated with better outcomes for the persons they serve.
- The Peer Specialist initiative complements and supports treatment activities to improve outcomes and enhance the recovery of persons with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.
- Evaluation efforts and the body of literature have continued to increase. During SFY2016, Wyoming conducted the first statewide review of client level treatment outcomes using the Daily Living Activities Assessment (DLA-20) Anchor data. This analysis confirms that Wyoming peer specialists are serving clients most in need of supports.