



Certified Peer Support Specialists

Overview

The Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services (DMHDDSUS) is building a robust and peer-led recovery-oriented support system of services throughout North Carolina. Peer Support workforce initiatives include additional funding for peer-run organizations to expand services and preparing providers with resources to incorporate and support Certified Peer Support Specialists (CPSS) in the workforce.

Peer Support Workforce Initiatives

These are some of our future initiatives that DMHDDSUS is actively working on:

- Define peer support designations for additional populations and settings, including Youth, Justice-Involved, Re-entry, Crisis, Forensic, Emergency Departments, LGBTQ+
- Create an Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Peer Mentor Curriculum for persons with lived experience of IDD and TBI can serve individuals with similar lived experiences.
- Development of a Peer Supervisor Training
- [North Carolina's Peer Support Specialist Program](#) will offer job search supports in partnership with Community Colleges to Peer Workforce Preparation Classes
- Meeting with Division of Health Benefits (DHB) to have revision discussion about the Peer Support Medicaid Definition

Initiatives	Implementation Timeline
Strengthening the Workforce	
Certification Course Scholarships	Currently Accepting Applications
Peer Support Specialist Certification Exam	January 2025
Two-Step Certification Curriculum	July 2025
Continuing Education for Specialization and Professional Advancement	Spring/Summer 2025
Supervision Requirements and Employer Technical Assistance	Fall 2025
Expanding Access to Peer Supports	
Establishing Peer Funding Priorities	Summer 2025
Medicaid Scope of Coverage and Payment Policies	Beginning in January 2025
Amplifying Peer Voices	
Engagement Efforts	Ongoing
DMHDDSUS Peer Support Leadership	Year 1

Peer Support Workforce Advisory Committee

We are actively working on and presenting our information around these initiatives to our Peer Support Workforce Advisory Committee and the North Carolina Peer Support Workgroup. To get involved, please sign up for our [Peer Support Workforce Advisory Committee](#).