

# **Pennsylvania Peer Support Coalition: Fact Sheet**

## **Who is part of this coalition?**

- The coalition members will be individuals who provide peer support throughout Pennsylvania. Anyone who provides peer support, whether on a paid or volunteer basis, to help others recover from mental health or co-occurring disorders, can participate in the coalition. The coalition is **not** limited to just certified peer specialists.
- The coalition will be guided by a steering committee made up of twelve members. These steering committee members will represent six regions of PA (northwest, north central, northeast, southwest, south central, and southeast). Each region will elect two representatives and one alternate to the steering committee.

## **What is the purpose of the coalition?**

- The purpose of the coalition is to ensure that peer support services are consumer-driven, and to provide resources and support for individuals who provide peer support.
- The coalition will accomplish these goals by:
  - Advocating for the needs of individuals who provide peer support,
  - Coordinating peer support networks,
  - Developing resources for individuals who provide peer support, and
  - Assisting in the development of consumer-run provider organizations.
- The coalition will collaborate with other organizations in working toward these goals.

## **What will the coalition advocate for?**

- What the coalition will advocate for:
  - Equitable salaries and benefits for individuals who provide peer support
  - Diverse and adequate funding for peer programs

(Continued on reverse)

## What will the coalition advocate for? (continued)

- Fair and equitable billing practices for Medicaid-funded peer services
- Education for providers about peer specialists and their roles in agencies
- The employment of individuals who provide peer support in all provider agencies
- A statewide Peer Support Code of Ethics
- Peer support representation on governing and advisory boards
- Other issues as needed

## What resources will the coalition provide?

- Resources the coalition will eventually provide:
  - A central listing of upcoming certified peer specialist and supervisor trainings in PA
  - A central listing of all peer support professional development meetings
  - Education about recovery-oriented principles and practices
  - An employment clearinghouse
  - Articles, website links, and job materials
  - Online networking forums
  - Mediation services
  - Other resources as needed

## How do I get involved with the coalition?

- Details about how to join the Pennsylvania Peer Support Coalition will be coming soon. Check the PMHCA website forums periodically for updates ([www.pmhca.org/?page=forum](http://www.pmhca.org/?page=forum)).
- If you're interested in being on the coalition steering committee, contact: **Nicole Darr**, Peer Support Coalition Coordinator, at (717) 564-4930 or via email at [nicole@pmhca.org](mailto:nicole@pmhca.org), and she can explain the process to you.