

Learn more about WI Certified Peer Specialists

- ◆ Are you an employer that wants to find out more about the many benefits of hiring Certified Peer Specialists as part of your team?
- ◆ Are you a consumer interested in becoming a trained Certified Peer Specialist?
- ◆ Do you want to find out about trainings and the Wisconsin certification exam?

Certification Exam Information:

www.sce-peerspecialist.uwm.edu

WI Certified Peer Specialist

Employment Initiative:

www.wicps.org

Additional contact information is on the back of this brochure.



Visit:

www.wicps.org

for the latest information on the
Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialist
Employment Initiative.

WI Peer Specialist Program
Alice F. Pauser, CPS

Access to Independence, Inc.
301 S Livingston St. Suite 200
Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-242-8484 ext 224

TTY: 608-242-8485

Toll-Free: 800-362-9877

Fax: 608-242-0383

alicep@accesstoind.org



Funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicaid Infrastructure Grant, CFDA# 93.768, WI Department of Health Services/Pathways to Independence

Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialists

*A Professional Career
as an integral part of
Mental Health
Recovery Teams*



Peer Specialists
Igniting Recovery

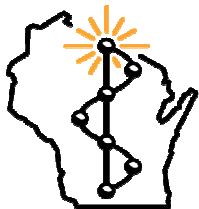
*Improving
Recovery Outcomes*



Peer Specialists Improve Outcomes

A **Peer Specialist** is a job title within the agency of employment where the role of a peer specialist is specific to the lived experience of that specialist and how that experience is utilized to help others move forward on their recovery journey.

A **Peer Specialist** is not a mental health technician limited to providing ancillary services without a clear therapeutic role, (i.e. driving people, laundry, and med deliveries), but an active participant on the consumer's treatment and recovery team.



A **Peer Specialist** is a person who has not only lived the experience of mental illness but also has had formal training in the peer specialist model of mental health supports. They use their unique set of recovery experiences in combination with solid skills training to support peers who have mental illness. Peer Specialists actively incorporate peer support into their work while working within an agencies team support structure as a defined part of the recovery team.

What Peer Specialists Do

The Role of the **Certified Peer Specialist** is varied and can take on several forms of support and assistance. Although roles may vary in service agencies, it is generally recognized that Peer Specialists provide the following services:



- ◆ Use personal recovery experience as a tool
- ◆ Present recovery information
- ◆ Provide information about mental health resources
- ◆ Assist in identifying and supporting consumers in crisis
- ◆ Facilitate self-direction and goal setting
- ◆ Communicate effectively with other treatment providers

If you feel that you would be an effective professional Certified Peer Specialist, please contact us and we will provide you with information on the steps to becoming certified in the state of Wisconsin. Week-long required trainings are held at locations throughout the state and exam locations are the Wisconsin Independent Living Centers. There are eight centers partnering for this service.

Where Peer Specialist are Employed...

- ◆ Emergency Rooms
- ◆ Crisis Services
- ◆ In and Outpatient Care
- ◆ Independent Living Centers
- ◆ Veteran's Hospitals
- ◆ Supported Living Arrangements
- ◆ Prisons and Forensic Areas
- ◆ Community Resource Centers
- ◆ Drop In Centers and Clubhouses
- ◆ CSP-Community Support Program
- ◆ CCS-Comprehensive Community Services
- ◆ ADRC-Aging and Disability Resource Center
- ◆ Family Care

The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Service [CMS] states that, "Peer support services are an evidence-based mental health model of care the experience of peer support providers, as consumers of mental health and substance use services, can be an important component in a State's delivery of effective treatment.."