

Regional Advisory Committee Meeting 6/17/13
Central NY Field Office - Syracuse Breakout Questions

1. As we think about making peer services eligible for Medicaid funding, what concerns and suggestions do we need to consider?
 - Cultural outstandingness
 - What blacks have to go through
 - Education and training
 - Frequency of accreditation training offered and who funds it
 - Concerns with over professionalization of peer services (losing flexibility and authenticity)
 - Specific billing parameters for peer services
 - Continued flexibility in providing non billable services
 - Easier accessibility with one on one peer services
 - Avoiding co-optation of peers
 - Need to still consider flexibility in funding beyond Medicaid

2. If peer services are funded by Medicaid, how can we make documentation more peer friendly?
 - Flexibility to take your own documentation
 - Minimize narratives with check boxes and other easier methods
 - Train people how to do documentation
 - Allow agencies flexibility to create documentation by service type
 - Allow peers to do their own documentation of cases
 - Design documentation that identifies barriers and allows improvement

- Utilize voice recorders for later transcription to documentation similar to what physical health doctors do now

- Utilize active listening skills when taking notes

- Will forms be standardized statewide?

- Shared documentation between providers makes it easier

- Stop insulting peers with a question like this, we are capable of everything a “professional provider” is!

- Allow clients to do their own case paperwork (it'd be more accurate)

- Allow clients access to read the case notes for accuracy

3. How do we ensure that peer programs can take advantage of insurance funding like Medicaid?

- Comply with Centers for Medicaid Services

- Use evidence based practices

- Have prepared data to show outcomes to healthhomes/managed care

- Prepared presentation on background of program and qualifications

- Be at the table with healthhomes and managed care companies

- Be prepared to deliver billable services

- Utilize business planning models

- Peer services should collaborate statewide to share successes and problem solve while supporting each other

- Get the training on billing

- Develop a peer advisory committee specific for when the state develops it's info to Centers for Medicaid Services for approval, also for creation of curriculums and standardized tools

- Protect the authenticity of peer services so providers don't take over the roles of peers and mimic us as they are now doing in PROS and other programs.

- Utilize MyPSYCKES data

4. If you had a magic wand and could make Medicaid peer friendly, what would you do?

Benefits

- User friendly – more options for services that actually promote recovery

- Utilize a money follows the person idea similar to the Cash in Counseling program in Florida – allows the person to choose services and money saved allowed them to pay for other non-medicaid services and training

- Allow access to alternatives such as Reiki, martial arts, acupuncture, Shamanic healing work, etc.

- Ensure that people are taught more about the Medicaid rules and regulations rather than telling them a simple no you can't do that (we can be really creative in making something fit medical necessity definition)

- Allow some funds for things that are not covered

- Ensure clients get their money's worth of services

- Ensure that people are taught the rules of the programs they use

- Allow peers to have access to services they need while in workforce (trend is to not allow peers to work until they have graduated from services.)

5. Any other issues or concerns?

- Ensure people served have access to a physical copy of rules and regulations

- Stop allowing peers and families to be used as volunteers to pick ideas out of our brains without paying for it or at minimum giving us credit for our work, If we are smart enough to take ideas from them hire us

- Ensure true cultural competency in programs and hiring
- Someone needs to actually check out these programs that are not hiring black people to do the jobs!