

MISSISSIPPI CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

The scope of activities shows the wide range of tasks a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional (Young Adult) can perform to assist others in regaining control over their own lives based on the principles of wellness and resiliency. Certification does not imply that the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional is qualified to diagnose an illness, prescribe medication, or provide clinical services.

- 1) Utilizing unique recovery experiences, the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional shall:
 - Teach and model the value of every individual's recovery experience;
 - Model effective coping techniques and self-help strategies;
 - Encourage peers to develop independent behavior that is based on choice rather than compliance;
 - Establish and maintain a peer relationship rather than a hierarchical relationship.

- 2) Utilizing direct peer-to-peer interaction and a goal-setting process, the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional shall:
 - Promote awareness and acceptance about behavioral health issues while reducing stigma.
 - Share their experiences in a way that helps other young people currently receiving services to make good use of their services.
 - Build bridges between youth, families and other community members
 - Appropriately document activities provided to peers in either their individual records or program records.

- 3) The Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional shall maintain a working knowledge of current trends and developments in the fields of mental health, co-occurring disorders, and peer support services by:
 - Reading books, current journals, and other relevant material;
 - Developing and sharing recovery-oriented material with other Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals;
 - Attending authorized or recognized conferences, workshops, and educational trainings.

- 4) The Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional shall serve as a wellness agent by:
Providing and promoting wellness-based services:
 - Assisting peers in obtaining services that suit each peer's individual wellness needs;
 - Support a sense of empowerment allowing young people to have influence and ownership over the services they receive.
 - Empower young people to develop skills through peer support, shared information and building connections
 - Model a sense of hope and expectancy.
 - Encourage youth participation and ownership in services and system activities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

By initialing and signing below, you understand that you will be required to follow the professional standards detailed in the Mississippi Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional Scope of Activities. Your initial and signature are required in this section.

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I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Mississippi Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional Scope of Activities.

I further acknowledge that I have read and understood all of my obligations, duties and responsibilities under each principle and provision of the Mississippi Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional Scope of Activities.

Print Full Name

Date

Signature

Date