

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 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:
 - Understand and utilize specific interventions necessary to assist peers in meeting their individualized wellness goals;
 - Lead as well as teach how to facilitate wellness dialogues through the use of focused conversation and other evidence-based and/or best practice methods;
 - Teach relevant skills needed for self-management of symptoms;
 - Teach others how to overcome personal fears and anxieties;
 - Assist peers in articulating their personal goals and objectives for wellness;
 - Assist peers in creating their personal wellness plans (e.g., WRAP, Declaration for Mental Health Treatment, crisis plan, etc.);
 - Assist peers in setting up and sustaining self-help groups;
 - 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 seminars, 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;
 - Assisting peers in developing empowerment skills through self-advocacy;
 - Assisting peers in developing problem-solving skills so they can respond to challenges to their wellness;
 - Sharing his or her unique perspective on recovery from mental illness with non-peer staff;
 - Assisting non-peer staff in identifying programs and environments that are conducive to recovery.

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