

## MISSISSIPPI CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES- CPSSP-F

The scope of activities shows the wide range of tasks a **Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional-Forensic Peer Recovery** 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-Forensic Peer Recovery** is qualified to diagnose an illness, prescribe medication, or provide clinical services.

Utilizing unique recovery experiences, the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional- Forensic Peer Recovery shall:

- Teach and model the value of every individual's recovery experience.
- Model effective coping techniques and self-help strategies.
- Serve as credible and trustworthy models of the possibility of recovery and instill hope in others.
- Encourage peers to develop independent behavior that is based on choice rather than compliance.
- Anticipate and bring up the social, psychological, and financial barriers because of their involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Maintain adherence to conditions of supervision.
- Establish and maintain a forensic peer relationship rather than a hierarchical relationship.
- Collaborate with professional staff.
- Educating professional staff on engaging consumers with a history with the criminal justice system.

Utilizing direct peer-to-peer interaction and a goal-setting process, the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional- Forensic Peer Recovery shall:

- Understand and utilize specific interventions necessary to assist peers in meeting their individualized wellness goals.
- Help others surrender certain attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that were acquired to survive in a criminal justice setting.
- Provide advice and instruction pertaining to jobs and housing.
- Lead as well as teach how to facilitate wellness dialogues using focused conversation and other evidence-based and/or best practice methods.
- Serve as community leaders and recovery coaches, in efforts to link newly released individuals with educational options, housing, and community service.
- 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.).
- Assisting individuals to uphold their criminal justice obligations as they progress in their recovery (e.g., fines, criminal sanctions, 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.

The Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional- Forensic Peer Recovery shall maintain a working knowledge of current trends and developments in the fields of mental health, co-occurring disorders, and forensic peer recovery services by:

- Reading books, current journals, and other relevant material.
- Frequently share their experiences with the criminal justice system and demonstrate how they progressed in recovery.

- Attending authorized or recognized seminars, workshops, and educational trainings.

The Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional- Forensic Peer Recovery 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.
- Provide additional support by going with the individual to their first probation meetings and referring them. for potential housing and employers.
- Demonstrate useful skills and respond quickly to avoid any crisis or relapse.
- 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.
- Inform newly released individuals on their responsibilities and rights of the criminal justice system requirements (e.g., probation).
- Provide additional support by going with the individual to their first probation meetings and referring them for potential housing and employers.
- Sharing their 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- CPSSP-F**

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-CPSSP-F. Your initial and signature are required in this section.

By 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- CPSSP-F. Your signature is required in this section.

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

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-CPSSP-F.

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Print Full Name Date

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Signature Date