

IPS Peer Specialist

Role

The IPS Peer Specialist provides expertise that professional training cannot replicate. A Peer Specialist offers hope and motivation by drawing from their own lived experiences and vocational recovery. Peer Specialists will provide elements of Supported Employment to any and all consumers working or contemplating work rather than a specific caseload assignment.

Tasks

This position exists to be an ambassador for the evidence-based practice Supported Employment and to provide employment support to peers through:

- orientation to SE service during contemplation phase
- provision of outreach calls and transportation to promote engagement
- co-facilitating intake of services including completion of documents
- identification of strengths and discovery of job types
- defining barriers and mixed messages; developing strategies to overcome
- assistance in gathering information on past employment or criminal history
- leading conversations about the pros and cons of disclosure
- conducting online searches for jobs related to consumer preference
- attending and engaging in Supported Employment team meetings
- participating in quarterly Supported Employment Celebrations
- working one on one or in peer groups to offer work-enhancing education such as food handlers certification, driver education, peer support, typing
- Performing mock interviews with clients and developing responses for hard to answer questions
- Discovering individualized job search or follow along support needs
- Participating in caseload reviews and brainstorming for difficult placements
- Fostering interpersonal skills, personal care, recovery and resiliency
- Sharing peer success stories
- Educating PROs about IPS SE
- Participate in IPS SE Fidelity Reviews

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Requirements:

- Must be a peer; an individual who is a client of professional mental health services or a survivor of mental illness. A peer is willing to share lived experiences.
- Positive attitude, encourager
- Trauma-informed
- General understanding of cultural differences
- Follow confidentiality and HIPAA requirements
- Observe professional boundaries
- Possess skills in active listening, problem solving
- Basic computer skills a plus
- Be willing to acquire Peer Support Specialist or Peer Employment Specialist Certification