

PEER SUPPORT ROLES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SETTINGS

TITLE	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	KEY CHARACTERISTICS
Peer Specialists and Peer Support Specialists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 1-on-1 peer support, facilitate support groups, share experiences, linkage to services and resources, advocacy, training and supervision. • Perform a wide range of tasks to support individuals in living their own lives and directing their own treatment and recovery process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 1-on-1 peer support, facilitate support groups, share experiences, linkage to services and resources, advocacy, training and supervision. • Perform a wide range of tasks to support individuals in living their own lives and directing their own treatment and recovery process.
Peer Recovery Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 1-on-1 peer support guiding and mentoring individuals seeking to achieve and sustain long-term recovery from substance use disorder, and enhance their quality of life. • Perform a wide range of tasks to support individuals in identifying and developing their own recovery goals, recovery pathways, and recovery plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery from substance use disorder is the primary shared experience • Provides peer support services in wide variety of public and private settings including justice settings • Typically paid but may be volunteer positions • Training and certification is available and may be required • Provides peer recovery support services in wide variety of public and private settings. • Some services may be reimbursable from third party sources
Peer Mentors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building 1-on-1 relationships, providing encouragement, motivation, and support to individuals seeking to establish or strengthen their recovery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery from diagnosis of mental illness and/or substance use disorder is shared experience • Provides peer support services in wide variety of public and private settings including justice settings • Typically volunteer positions but they may be paid • Training is available and is recommended but often not required
Veteran Mentors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring fellow veterans by offering support with accessing treatment, securing housing, obtaining employment, furthering education, accessing transportation, applying for benefits, contesting discharge status, and connecting with other services and resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military service is the primary shared experience • Typically volunteer positions but they may be paid • Training available (e.g. NADCP's Justice for Vets Mentor Corps Boot Camp) • Provides mentoring in Veteran Treatment Courts and other veteran services organizations • Services provided are not reimbursable from third party sources

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Peer Navigators and Bridgers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping individuals understand system processes and how to effectively navigate systems to obtain services needed and access helpful resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovery from diagnosis of mental illness is the primary shared experience May be either paid and volunteer positions Available in various settings, including justice settings Frequently employed during transition periods Services may be reimbursable from third party sources
Family Support Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing support and information to family members of individuals with behavioral health conditions and facilitating support groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having family member with behavioral health challenges (mental, substance use, or co-occurring disorders) is primary shared experience May be either paid and volunteer positions Training encouraged but may not be required Provides support to families including those with loved ones who are justice involved
Forensic Peer Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A term often used to describe the work of providing peer support services to justice-involved individuals. These specialists have significant knowledge of both behavioral health and the justice system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peer support services delivered exclusively to individuals involved in the criminal justice system Lived experience with the justice system is highly preferred and training encouraged Typically paid but may be volunteer positions Services may be reimbursable from third party sources



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