



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Monthly Peer Support Meeting Minutes January 28, 2009

Attendees: Patrick Barnett, Aaron Harris, Harry Kiick, Dave King, Lyn Pattison, Cathy West, and Kori York

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
Youth Suicide Prevention	Mary Jadwisiak gave an overview of suicide prevention for youth, much of which was also applicable to any population. The information included statistics, warning signs, skills individuals can use to beat depression, and tips on how to help someone who may be at risk of suicide.
Hall of Fame Selection Committee Recruitment	The Hall of Fame Selection Committee needs more members. The group meets only twice per year to look over the nominations for the Hall of Fame and select who will be inducted. If anyone is interested they should contact Melanie Green at (360) 397-2130 or melanie.green@clark.wa.gov Both Patrick and Aaron volunteered to join the committee.
Upcoming Events/ Resource Information	A list of upcoming conferences and trainings was handed out. A selection of resources was available for people to take with them. Harry is part of a task group that is looking at changes to the C-Van program. According to Harry, there will be some changes coming to C-Van in March or April. Some of the changes being discussed are stricter eligibility requirements and eliminating the responsibility of C-Van drivers to ensure that people make it safely into the building they are being transported to. One change that has already been adopted is that the cost of a C-Van monthly pass will increase from \$23 to \$46 in March or April. Harry will keep this group informed of the upcoming changes.
Job Opportunities	Information was shared about non-peer support job openings at Lifeline Connections and 211 Info as well as two peer support job openings in Seattle.
Role Successes & Challenges	Attendees had the opportunity to discuss any successes or challenges they are having with their roles. One topic discussed by the group was the upcoming changes to the Registered Counselor credential. There is still no information available about when the WAC (Washington Administrative Code) that defines a certified peer support will be

	<p>changed or what the change will be. The current WAC that defines what a Certified Peer Support Counselor is includes that they must have a current R.C. But after July 2009 no new R.C.'s will be issued by the Department of Health. And as of July 2010, all existing R.C.'s will be abolished. It is unclear whether the new WAC definition will simply exclude the R.C. or if a new credential will be required.</p> <p>Folks at today's meeting expressed concern about the possibility of the requirements of being a Certified Peer Support being weakened by not including a required credential through the Department of Health. There was concern that the legitimacy of the certification will be downplayed if the requirements are less stringent, and that if all other provider staff are required to carry credentials that require a background check and other safeguards then the peer support certification should as well.</p> <p>Melanie will look into how people can share their feedback about this issue so that it is taken into consideration when the WAC is revised.</p>
Next Meeting	<p>Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday February 25, 2009 from 11:30 to 1:00 at the Clark County Center for Community Health in conference room C210-C.</p>