



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Monthly Peer Support Meeting Minutes February 25, 2009

Attendees: Brad Berry, Brenda Bolger, Debbra Cramer, Shawn Gehring, Greg Lee, Terry Meldorf, Brenda Merrill, Pat Roe, Lori Ramage, Faith Vaillancourt, Calvin White, and Kori York

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
Consumer Voices Are Born	<p>Lori Ramage and Brad Berry from CVAB talked about the services they offer. CVAB has groups and classes taking place every day of the week as well as a Warm Line that operates every evening from 5:00 to 10:00 pm. Their services are free of charge to the public regardless of their insurance status. CVAB offers many opportunities for people to get involved and take charge of their own recovery as well as become involved in volunteer and advocacy roles if they are interested. CVAB's monthly newsletter and calendar are available online at www.cvabonline.com.</p> <p>Additionally, CVAB will be coordinating a support group for Peer Supports. More information regarding the group will be available soon.</p>
Quarterly Employment Awards	<p>As discussed in previous meetings, the Clark County Regional Support Network has embarked on a Performance Improvement Project to increase the rate of employment for individuals living with mental illness. The project, entitled Recovery Works in Clark County, has a three-pronged approach that includes outreach and education for employers, mental health clinicians, and individuals.</p> <p>One component of the Recovery Works campaign is the Employment Awards. The Employment Awards are designed to recognize people who are contributing their skills and talents to our community through employment despite facing challenges with their mental health, as well as the employers that support them.</p> <p>Nominations may be submitted for the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Clark County resident who is contributing their skills and talents to our community through employment despite facing challenges with their mental health• A Clark County business which makes an effort to employ one or more individuals with a mental illness <p>Recipients of the awards will be honored at a Mental Health Advisory Board meeting as well as announced in various</p>

	<p>newsletters and meetings.</p> <p>One employee and one employer will be recognized each quarter in 2009. You can download a nomination form or submit your nomination online at http://www.clark.wa.gov/mental-health/recovery/employment.html</p> <p><i>The deadline for submissions for the first quarter of 2009 is March 31, 2009.</i></p>
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.
Job Opportunities	Information was shared about non-peer support job openings at Lifeline Connections.
Role Successes & Challenges	Attendees had the opportunity to discuss any successes or challenges they are having with their roles.
Next Meeting	Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday March 25, 2009 from 11:30 to 1:00 at the Clark County Center for Community Health in conference room C210-C. Staff from the Clark County Housing Preservation/Energy Assistance Program will be presenting information on the resources that are available through their program.