



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Monthly Peer Support Meeting Minutes July 29, 2009

Attendees: Ricky Clements, Sue Gebhardt, Dave King, Karen Leonard, Heather Marshall, Terry Meldorf, Brenda Merrill, Lyn Pattison, Kay Roberson, and Pat Roe

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
<b>Dealing with Trauma on the Job</b>	Sue Gebhardt from Lifeline Connections shared some information about grief and how to deal with the trauma that Peer Support Counselors may experience on the job. Attendees had an opportunity to talk about some of the things that they have experienced on the job that may have been traumatic for them.
<b>2009 Visions of Recovery Poster Contest</b>	The 2009 Visions of Recovery Poster Contest had 15 entries. Copies of the 5 winning posters are available for anyone who would like one, as well as a booklet featuring all of the entries. Copies were distributed at today's meeting. All 15 posters are currently on display at the Clark County Public Service Center at 13 <sup>th</sup> and Franklin through the end of the week. Anyone who is interested in having the posters on display in their agency is welcome to contact Pat Roe or Melanie Green at (360) 397-2130.
<b>Update on changes to the Registered Counselor Credential</b>	<p>As of July 1, 2009 no new Registered Counselor credentials are being issued. In addition, the Revised Code of Washington (R.C.W.) that defines the Registered Counselor credential states that Peer Counselors are exempt from needing an R.C. However the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) that legally defines what a Certified Peer Counselor is still states that they have to have an R.C.</p> <p>Unfortunately no clear answers have been given about what all of this means. Folks who want to become Certified Peer Counselors can still apply and take the training and test. However they cannot get an R.C. and therefore cannot become Certified at this point. Staff at the Regional Support Network will continue to seek clarification on this issue.</p>
<b>Mental Health Hall of Fame</b>	<p>The three inductees to the Clark County Mental Health Hall of Fame for the first half of 2009 have been selected. Glen Clark was selected as the individual, Treena Turner was selected as the family member and Nancy Gierut-Wicker was selected as the professional.</p> <p>The next deadline for submitting Hall of Fame nominations is at the end of December. To view the Hall of Fame or download a nomination form please visit <a href="http://www.clark.wa.networkofcare.org/mh">www.clark.wa.networkofcare.org/mh</a> and click on "Mental Health Hall of Fame." Photos and descriptions of the three most recent inductees will be online soon.</p>
<b>Peer Support Guideline Update</b>	After nearly a year of development, the Clark County Peer Support Guidelines are in final draft form. They will be presented to the Quality Management Committee in September for adoption. The guidelines are not meant to serve as strict rules or contract requirements but rather as a framework for what stakeholders in our community believe quality peer support services should look like.

<p><b>Upcoming Events/Resource Information</b></p>	<p><u>Employment PIP Job Seeker Conference</u>  The first two Job Seeker Conferences have been a huge success. The next event is scheduled for Friday September 11 from 1 to 5 pm. More information will be available soon. For more information please contact Melanie Green at (360) 397-2130.</p> <p><u>Bringing Hope to Every Interaction</u>  The Clark County Regional Support Network is sponsoring a training on August 21 entitled Bringing Hope to Every Interaction. This 3.5 hour workshop is designed for receptionist, front office staff, clerical workers, maintenance staff or any other non-clinical employee who come into contact with mental health consumers during the course of their jobs. This workshop is also perfect for social service providers who are not mental health professionals, but work with people with mental illness in the course of their jobs. For more information please contact Melanie Green at (360) 397-2130.</p> <p><u>Lifeline Connections Clothing Drive</u>  Lifeline is holding a clothing drive for folks in residential treatment tomorrow. They are looking for adult sized clothing.</p> <p><u>School Supplies Donation Day</u>  Children’s Home Society is holding a School Supplies Donation Day on Saturday August 29 from 11 am to 3 pm. The Salmon Creek Lions Club is providing free lunch for folks dropping off school supplies donations. Families needing school supplies are invited to sign up on the donation day—and bring the family to enjoy a free lunch. Call (360) 695-1325 for more information.</p> <p><u>National Community Health Center Week Resource Fairs</u>  Sea Mar Community Health Centers will be holding two resource fairs (Tuesday August 11 at their Delaware Lane location and Wednesday August 12 at the Center for Community Health location, both from noon to 2 pm) featuring Dental Resources, Breast Health Awareness, Behavioral Health Resources, Medical Insurance Information, Asthma Education, Diabetes Management, Quit Smoking Services, Community Resources, Information and Referrals, New Patient Sign-up and more. For more information please contact Sea Mar at (360) 896-5128.</p> <p>In addition to these events, a list of upcoming conferences, trainings, and other events related to social services was shared. There was also a large assortment of resource information available for folks to take with them.</p>
<p><b>Job Opportunities</b></p>	<p>Information was shared about peer support job openings at Columbia River Mental Health, Community Services Northwest, and CVAB. Information was also shared about job openings at Lifeline Connections and disAbility Resources of Southwest Washington that are not specifically for peer supports but require similar skills.</p>
<p><b>Announcements</b></p>	<p>Heather shared information about a gentleman who would like to bring some people together from across the state to bring attention to domestic violence issues. She will forward the details on.</p>
<p><b>Role Successes &amp; Challenges</b></p>	<p>Attendees had the opportunity to discuss any successes or challenges they are having with their roles.</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday August 26, 2009 from 11:30 to 1:00 at the Clark County Center for Community Health in conference room C210-C.</p>