

Peer Pathfinder Project

Outreach and engagement for individuals experiencing Opiate Use Disorders and/or Stimulant Use Disorders at risk of overdose.

Overview

The Peer Pathfinder Projects build on the already established DBHR Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program to provide substance use disorder (SUD) peer recovery support in emergency rooms and homeless encampments. The project links individuals to treatment options to include Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD).

In Washington State, SUD peer counseling is an approved Medicaid service. Peer counseling is provided by certified peer counselors who have met state requirements, taken the approved classes, and passed the state test. Peer counselors use their own recovery stories in helping others develop hope and improve their lives.

Peer Pathfinder SUD Peers assist individuals in navigating and obtaining services to address barriers to independence and recovery. These services address housing, financial resources, transportation, habilitation and rehabilitation services, prevocational and vocational services.

Eligibility

Adults (age 18 or over), with one of the following conditions:

Individuals with Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) or

Stimulant Use Disorder (SUD) at risk of overdose or

Individuals who are suspected of Substance Use and who may be experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness or

Individuals experiencing a substance use health crisis and are utilizing emergency room settings.

Authority

The Peer Pathfinder program is funded by the State Opiate Response (SOR) grant administered by the Center for Mental Health Services, a component of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Budget and funding FFY 2021

Peer Pathfinders Outreach services received \$1,505,972. This amount was divided among 11 teams across the state.

Number Served FFY 21

Peer Pathfinder Service Summary October 2020 - September 2021

Total Enrolled into program (762)

Total Services enrollees received (9,340)


Total Referrals Made for additional services (1,283)

Key Partners

Fundamental to the success of the Peer Pathfinder program, is the dedication and support of community partners across the state. This includes establishing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with local hospitals emergency departments, county jails, and treatment facilities.

Oversight

(DBHR) is the state Peer Pathfinder funding recipient and administers the project. The Behavioral Health Service Organizations (BH-ASOs) provide local oversight and sub-contract with local, state licensed private, non-profit mental health agencies to provide services directly. There are nine locations in the state where contracts are issued directly with licensed community behavioral health agencies.



There is a peer pathfinder site in all regional purchasing areas. Two of the eleven sites have two Peer Pathfinder Teams due to the large urban or geographical areas.

For More Information Contact

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