

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NOTICE OF PROPOSED POLICY

Public Act 280 of 1939, as amended, and consultation guidelines for Medicaid policy provide an opportunity to review proposed changes in Medicaid policies and procedures.

Please review the policy summary and the attached materials that describe the specific changes being proposed. Let us know why you support the change or oppose the change.

Submit your comments to the analyst by the due date specified. Your comments must be received by the due date to be considered for the final policy bulletin.

Thank you for participating in the consultation process.



Director, Program Policy Division

Bureau of Medicaid Policy, Operations, and Actuarial Services

Project Number: 2113-BHDDA	Comments Due: July 7, 2021	Proposed Effective Date: September 1, 2021
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Policy Subject: Peer Recovery Coach Certification

Affected Programs: Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan

Distribution: Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs)

Policy Summary: The policy updates the training and certification requirements for services provided to beneficiaries by peer recovery coaches.

Purpose: To clarify lived experience requirement for recovery coach certification, grandparenting applications and continuous years of recovery to meet state certification requirements.

Proposed Policy Draft

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Medical Services Administration

Distribution: Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs), Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs)

Issued: August 1, 2021 (Proposed)

Subject: Peer Recovery Coach Certification

Effective: September 1, 2021 (Proposed)

Programs Affected: Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to modify the Peer Recovery Coach description in the Medicaid Provider Manual to remove the requirement of receiving public behavioral health services and clarify the lived experience treatment requirement for persons with lived experience in substance use disorders and/or addictions.

Peer Recovery Coach Services

Peer recovery coach services are provided by a person in a journey of recovery from addictions and/or co-occurring disorders who identifies with a beneficiary based on a shared background and life experience. The peer recovery coach, serving in a role as a community health worker, operates as a personal guide and mentor for beneficiaries seeking, or already in, recovery from substance use disorders. Peer recovery coaches support a beneficiary's journey toward recovery and wellness by creating and sustaining networks of formal and informal services and supports while role modeling the many pathways to recovery as each individual determines his or her own way. The peer recovery coach helps to remove barriers and obstacles, assists with practices of harm reduction, and links the beneficiary to resources in the recovery community.

Services provided support beneficiaries to become and stay engaged in the recovery process and reduce the likelihood of relapse. Activities are targeted to beneficiaries at all places along the path to recovery, including outreach for persons who are still active in their addiction, up to and including individuals who have been in recovery for several years.

Peer recovery coaches embody a powerful message of hope; assisting beneficiaries to achieve goals of community inclusion and participation, independence, recovery, and productivity. The peer recovery coach can assist with setting recovery goals, developing

recovery action plans, and supporting beneficiaries to live a full and meaningful life in the community.

The peer recovery coach supports each beneficiary to fully participate in communities of their choosing in the environment most supportive of their recovery. Utilizing a strength-based perspective and emphasizing assessment of recovery capital, services are designed to include prevention strategies and the integration of physical and behavioral health services to help attain and maintain recovery and prevent relapse. Beneficiaries utilizing peer recovery coach services must freely choose the individual who will provide peer recovery coach services.

The peer recovery coach shall receive regular supervision by a case manager, treatment practitioner, prevention staff, or an experienced Certified Peer Recovery Coach who has over two continuous years in recovery and over two years in the direct provision of recovery coach services and supports.

Individuals who have been certified by Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR), Michigan Certification Board for Addiction Professionals (MCBAP), or Genesee Health System approved curriculum prior to January 1, 2018, may request a grandparenting application.

Requirements

Individuals who work as a peer recovery coach serving beneficiaries with substance use and/or co-occurring disorders must:

- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Have a high school diploma or a General Education Diploma (GED);
- Have a substance use disorder (SUD) and/or addiction(s) and have received, or currently are receiving, treatment;
- Have two continuous years in recovery at one point in time from addiction(s), with experience in navigating complex addiction treatment services (self-help groups are not included);
- Share their recovery story as a tool in helping others;
- Be employed at least 10 hours per week by a licensed Substance Use Disorder Treatment Organization, a PIHP, a CMHSP, or another organization under contract with an organization(s) that provides substance abuse treatment and/or recovery support services; and
- Meet the MDHHS application and approval process for specialized training and certification requirements.