INFORMATION PACKET

HELP PEOPLE GET SUPPORT FROM PEOPLE THEY TRUST “IF I CAN DO IT, SO CAN YOU!”
CONGRATULATIONS!

• You have qualified to be a Peer 2 Peer Support
• Packet will explain the job
• Packet will explain the responsibilities
**YOU AS A PEER SUPPORT?**

- You have shown you have experience in various life situations to share your personal strategies with other individuals.
- You will share with another peer your experience.
- You will assist the person on their “life journey”.
- The person will hire you with their DDS funding.
- This is a short term support based on a life goal from the person’s IP.
- You can only work 2 hours a week up to 6 months for any one person.
- You can work for more than one person at a time.
PEER 2 PEER RESPONSIBILITIES

• You must show you have attended a Healthy Relationship Training/Series
• You are professional
• You need to dress for success
• You must document supports and interactions with the person – maintain a time sheet
• You must reliable and take responsibility for the information you share
• You must maintain confidentiality
• You are in a professional working relationship – you work for the person that hires you (not the agency)
• You are paid by your employer that hires you
PEER 2 PEER RESPONSIBILITIES

• You will follow instructions given by the person hiring you – they are your boss!
• You need to work with the person to:
  • Find out what they want to learn
  • Know what their IP says they will learn from a Peer 2 Peer
  • Listen to what they have to say and figure out together what you will assist them to do
• You must develop goals with the person and document their progress
• You MUST maintain confidentiality
• You can be part of the person’s PST if asked
• You must maintain a timesheet and turn it in to your employer
• What do I want to learn

Each Step represents a task to completing the goal. The Peer 2 Peer needs to document progress for each goal developed.

Peer 2 Peer will assure they complete the data needed.
WHY AND WHEN WOULD A PERSON ASK FOR A PEER TO SUPPORT THEM?

• They want advice about life choices such as:
  • Moving to a new home
  • Changing from a group home to a more independent living situation
  • Getting Real Work for Real Pay jobs
  • Learning how to live a self determined life
  • Learning how to find friends and get connected in their community
  • Figuring out what makes them happy
  • Supporting the person to develop a Circle of Support or a group of people who love and support them.
  • Move from a nursing home to their own home
  • Learning to budget to be more independent
  • How to hire and manage their own staff – being a boss
HOW DO PEOPLE FIND YOU AS A PEER SUPPORT?

• Look on the DDS Advocates’ Corner for contacts
• Contact the Peer Support through email
• Request the Peer Support’s resume
• Interview the Peer Support and see if they think their experience and skills match the need
• Do they feel comfortable with the Peer Support?
• Contact the case manager to assist
OTHER QUALIFICATIONS CONSIDERED BY THE PERSON HIRING THE PEER 2 PEER SUPPORT?

• The Peer Support knows how to respond to fire and emergency situations
• The Peer Support follows directions and accepts supervision from the participant or the participant’s conservator and or DDS depending on the Peer Support provided
• The Peer Support maintains accurate, complete and timely records that meet Medicaid requirements
• The Peer Support provides services in a respectful culturally competent manner
Peer Supports:
• Are professional
• Dress for success
• Need to document supports and interactions with the person – maintain a time sheet
• Have a responsibility and need to be reliable
• Maintain confidentiality
• Maintain a professional relationship – they work for the person that hires them (not the agency)
• Paid by the employer that hires them to be their Peer Support
PEER SUPPORT – THIS IS A REAL JOB!

• Tips to being a professional Peer Support
  • Have a personal email address
  • Create a resume
  • Have reliable transportation to do the job BUT not be responsible for their employer’s transportation
  • Know how to track work time on a timesheet
  • REMEMBER - This is a short term job so make the best of the time with the person