Peer Peer **PEER SUPPORT**

Getting Support From People I Trust!

LET'S HEAR IT!



oLeader:

•Change can HAPPEN with Peer to Peer Support!

oGroup: oChange can HAPPEN with Peer to Peer Support!

UNDERSTANDING PEER SUPPORT

- What is a Peer Support?
- Who is a Peer Support?
- Why and When should I ask for a Peer to Support ME?
- How do I find or get a Peer Support I trust?
- Making My Life Happen
- How do I become a Peer Support?



WHAT IS A PEER SUPPORT?

- A peer/individual who has experience in various life situations to share with you their personal strategies
- We learn from each other and this is an excellent way for you to learn from another person who has gone through a similar experience.
- A peer support will assist you on your "life journey"
- You hire a peer support with your DDS funding
- A short term support based on life goal from my IP



WHO IS A PEER SUPPORT?

- A person/peer who is paid to provide you with their expertise
- A person/peer who has life experiences to share
- A person/peer who presently receives supports through a waivered service
- A person/peer who has developed a resume explaining their experiences and how they can support others on their life journey
- A person/peer who is qualified to provide Peer
 Support



WHY AND WHEN SHOULD I ASK FOR A PEER TO SUPPORT ME?

- You want advice from someone who has already experienced what you want to do or what you want to try to do
- You want to learn from a peer and get their ideas and learn from their personal experiences
- You are looking to hire a peer to learn from their life experiences



WHY AND WHEN SHOULD I ASK FOR A PEER TO SUPPORT ME?

• You 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 your community
- Figuring out what makes you happy
- Supporting you to develop a Circle of Support or a group of people that support you and love you



WHY AND WHEN SHOULD I ASK FOR A PEER TO SUPPORT ME?

• You want advice about life choices such as:

- Move from a nursing home to their own home
- Learning to budget to be more independent
- How to hire and manage your own staff being a boss

What advice are you looking for?



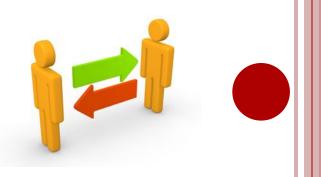




How do I find or get a Peer Support I trust?

- Look on the DDS Advocates' Corner for contacts
- Contact the Peer Support though email
- Request the Peer Support's resume
- Interview the Peer Support and see if you think they have the experience and skills you would like
- Do you feel comfortable with the Peer Support?
- Ask a self advocate or a SA Advisor if they know of a qualified Peer Support
- Contact your case manager to assist





MAKING MY LIFE HAPPEN!

 Your Peer Support should assist you but NOT tell you what to do

- You should agree with Your Peer Support when you can talk to each other and get together
- You need to be respectful of each other you may not always agree but that is why you are learning to be more self determined
- You are making your life happen when you can learn from a Peer Support to make the changes you want in life.



LET'S HEAR IT! oLeader: oI MAKE MY LIFE HAPPEN!

oGroup: oI MAKE MY LIFE HAPPEN!



CAN I BE A PEER SUPPORT? How Do I QUALIFY TO BE A PEER SUPPORT?

- Be at least 21 years old
- Possess a high school diploma or GED
- Minimum 2 years of personal experience
 - Personal experience related to:
 - How to manage your home
 - How to manage Direct Support Professionals private hire staff
 - How to find a job and maintain the job
 - How to advance in a chosen career
 - How to access your community
 - How to build community supports



OTHER QUALIFICATIONS CONSIDERED BY THE PERSON HIRING THE PEER SUPPORT?

- Peer Support follows instructions given by the person hiring them
- Peer Support is responsible for providing progress of the person's skills or understanding
- Peer Support MUST maintain confidentiality
- Peer Support meets the person's needs as indicated in their IP
- Peer Support is part of the person's PST if asked
- Peer Support has participated in Healthy Relationship Training



OTHER QUALIFICATIONS CONSIDERED BY THE PERSON HIRING THE PEER SUPPORT?

- 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
- Peer Support maintains accurate, complete and timely records that meet Medicaid requirements
- Peer Support provides services in a respectful culturally competent manner
- Peer Support uses effective Peer Support Practices.



PEER SUPPORT – This is a Real JOB!



- You are a professional
- You are to dress for success
- You need to document your support and interaction with the person – maintain a time sheet
- You have a responsibility and need to be reliable
- Maintain confidentiality
- This is a professional relationship you work for the person that hires you
- You are paid by the employer that hires you to be the Peer Support

PEER SUPPORT – This is a Real JOB!



- Tips to being a professional Peer Support
 - Have your own email address people need to contact you
 - Create a resume people need to know your experiences
 - Have reliable transportation to do your job BUT You are not responsible for your employer's transportation
 - Know how to track your work time on a timesheet
 - REMEMBER this is a short term job so you want to make the best of the time with the person

LET'S HEAR IT!



oLeader:

oLife Happens with Peer to Peer Support!

oGroup: oLife Happens with Peer to Peer support!

