

Beaver County Peer Specialists

May 2020

Who We Are and What We Do

Prepared by HPW Associates

In **August 2019**, the Beaver County System of Care (SOC) surveyed peers (N=47) with and without certification. Peers were asked about peer training, employment, and their experiences as a peer providing services or volunteering within the SOC. Results from this survey will be used for planning purposes.

PEER BACKGROUND		PEER DEMOGRAPHICS					
71.1% Live & Work in Beaver County	55.8% - Employed in another job before receiving training	Gender	 68.1% - Female		 31.9% - Male		
	36.4% - Employed in a position requiring CPS or CRS certification						
Before Certification	78.6% - Full- or Part-Time 50.0% - Irregular Work 39.1% - Unemployed (Looking, Not Looking), Other	Race	 91.5% White		 8.5% Black	 6.4% Other Race	
After Certification	63.0% - Full- or Part-Time 20.0% - Irregular Work 20.8% - Unemployed (Looking, Not Looking), Other	Age	 17 Youngest		 50.7 Average Age		 72 Oldest
		Peer Type	43.5% CPS	6.5% CRS	13.0% Training	28.3% No Training	8.7% Other
							

Primary Groups Served

- 1 81.6% Adults (26-54)
- 2 73.7% Adults (55+)
- 3 50.0% Transition-Age Youth (18-25)
- 4 42.1% Substance Misusers
- 5 39.5% Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

41.2%
Agency/Site

32.4%
Community

Programs or Settings

- 35.1% Community Outreach
- 32.4% Drop-in Centers
- 29.7% Advocacy Orgs
- 5.4% Intensive Outpatient
- 2.7% State Hospitals
- 2.7% ACT, PACT, or FACT Teams



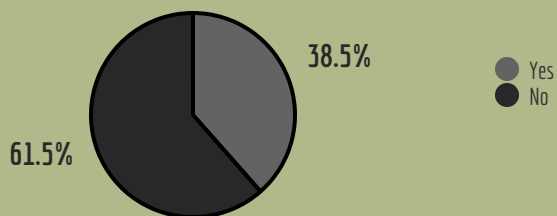
Supporting Others as a Peer

80.6% Developing relationships with others
80.6% Self-determination and responsibility
73.0% Developing friendships
66.7% Health and wellness
66.7% Stigma in the community

29.4% Housing
25.0% Developing WRAP/Crisis plans
25.0% Parenting relationships
21.9% Education
8.8% Developing psych advanced directives

Employment as a Peer

Employed to Provide Peer Services



Most Peer Specialists surveyed are **not** employed to provide peer services. Among those who are (N=15), the vast majority **agree** that as a peer they:

- Have an opportunity to **give back** to others (100.0%)
- Have the ability to **learn from** their **peers** (100.0%)
- Have the ability to **practice their own recovery** (92.3%)
- Have the ability to **affect own agency** (92.3%)
- Have **opportunities** for **professional development** at agency (84.6%)
- Have **ability to enhance confidence** and **sense** of being able to support self and others (84.6%)

Peer Training

86.7%

Employed Peer Specialist
also Trained as CPS/CRS

Personal Development

- 1 Developed new skills applicable to life and recovery
- 2 Developed confidence to do things to support the recovery of others
- 3 Developed confidence to do things to further own recovery

Professional Development

- 1 Professional development opportunities have been useful
- 2 Efforts to improve self are supported by supervisor
- 3 Receive a fair and honest performance evaluation