



# Statement of Work

## Peer Pathfinders Transition from Incarceration Pilot

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### **PURPOSE**

The Peer Pathfinders Transition from Incarceration Pilot Program is intended to serve those who are exiting correctional facilities in Washington State who have either a serious mental illness, a SUD, or co-occurring conditions.

Peer Pathfinders should demonstrate that recovery is possible and model the ten components of recovery as defined in the SAMHSA Consensus Statement on Mental Health Recovery (<http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA05-4129/SMA05-4129.pdf>).

### **SERVICE POPULATION**

The SABG program targets the following populations and service areas:

1. Pregnant women and women with dependent children;
2. Intravenous drug users;
3. Tuberculosis services;
4. Early intervention services for HIV/AIDS; and
5. Primary prevention service.

### **SERVICES**

Participation in the program is voluntary.

#### General Expectations

1. The Peer Pathfinders will attempt to engage Individuals in planning their discharge. BH-ASO contracted jail transition teams will help the Peer Pathfinder identify potential participants.
2. The Peer Pathfinder will work with the Individual on transitioning out of incarceration and into community-based services to address identified needs.
3. These supports may include spending time establishing social support, helping with independent living skills, developing coping skills, and community adjustment skills.
4. The hand-off between the Peer Pathfinder and the community behavioral health Provider who is providing behavioral health services will be gradual and based on the Individual's needs and their person-centered plan.
5. The anticipated duration of in-community Peer Pathfinder services is 120 calendar days with extensions granted by the Contractor on a case-by-case basis.

#### Program Duties

1. In conjunction with the BH-ASO Jail Transitions team, the Peer Pathfinder will work to engage Individuals eligible for Jail Transitions services. The Peer Pathfinder shall work directly with Individuals upon release and follow them through their transition back into the community to ensure linkage relevant services for their recovery.
2. The Peer Pathfinder shall support the jail transition team with release planning to include the following:
  - a. Function as a member of the Individual's jail transition team.
  - b. Identify Individual-perceived barriers to discharge, assist the Individual with working through barriers and assure the Individual that they will be supported throughout the process.

- c. Coordinating in conjunction with release planning efforts for the Individual to travel back to his or her community.
3. The frequency and duration of Peer Pathfinder services will be determined by the Individual's needs, the service level required to help the Individual stay safely in the community, and caseload prioritization. Peer Pathfinder services will be decreased when the Individual is receiving behavioral health treatment and peer services from a behavioral health agency or when the Individual no longer wants the Peer Pathfinder's support.
  - a. The Peer Pathfinder shall facilitate a "warm hand-off" to the behavioral health agency chosen by the Individual. Warm hand-off activities may include:
    - i. Function as a member of the Individual's jail transition team.
    - ii. Identify Individual-perceived barriers to discharge, assist the Individual with working through barriers and assure the Individual that they will be supported throughout the process.
    - iii. Coordinating in conjunction with release planning efforts for the individual to travel back to his or her community.
4. Examples of Peer Pathfinder engagement activities may include :
  - a. Interacting with potential participants
  - b. Developing a trusting relationship with participants.
  - c. Promoting a sense of self-direction and self-advocacy.
  - d. Sharing their experiences in recovery.
  - e. Helping motivate through sharing the strengths and challenges of their own illness.
  - f. Considering the Individual's medical issues and helping them develop wellness plans they can pursue in accordance with their physician recommendations.
  - g. Helping the Individual plan how they will successfully manage their life in the community.
  - h. Educating Individuals about resources in their home community.
  - i. When requested by the Individual join in treatment team meetings if there are no safety concerns. Help to convey the Individual's perspectives and assist the Individual with understanding the process.
5. Community-based post-release activities will include:
  - a. Assisting the Individual in developing a crisis plan with the Individual's behavioral health service agency. The Peer Pathfinder may be identified as a non-crisis resource in the plan.
  - b. Work to connect the Individual with natural support resources and the local recovery community and attend meetings as allowed.
  - c. Support the Individual in developing skills to facilitate trust-based relationships, develop strategies for maintaining wellness and develop skills to support relationships.
  - d. Assist the Individual in developing a life structure, including skills for daily living such as visits to coffee shops, use of local transportation, opening a bank account, work effectively with a payee if needed, understand benefits, budget planning, shopping and meal preparation, access leisure activities, find a church or faith home, attain, and maintain housing, etc.
  - e. Support the Individual in developing skills to schedule, track and attend appointments with Providers.
  - f. Assist the Individual develop skills for self-advocacy so that the Individual can better define his or her treatment plan and communicate clearly with professionals such as psychiatric prescribers, primary care doctors, etc. The Peer Pathfinder should also help Individuals prepare for appointments and identify questions or comments the Individual might have for the Provider.
  - g. Explore supported employment that addresses the following:

- i. Employment goals and how they relate to recovery.
- ii. The availability of additional training and education to help the Individual become employable.
- iii. The array of employment programs and supported employment opportunities available within the region.

## **PROGRAM STAFFING**

Minimum of one (1) FTE Peer Pathfinder.

1. Peer Pathfinder is required to complete the Intersections of Behavioral Health and the Law training, within ninety (90) calendar days of training being made available.
2. Peer Pathfinder will work with an average of six to twelve program Individuals. Peer Pathfinders shall routinely engage and interact with potential program Individuals.

The Peer Pathfinder team, including Peer Pathfinder Supervisor will:

1. Participate in statewide Peer Pathfinder Program administrative support conference calls as applicable
2. Participate in Peer Pathfinder Training events scheduled by DBHR.
3. Coordinate and communicate Peer Pathfinder team schedules for participating at the inpatient settings with Peer Pathfinder coordinator.

The Peer Pathfinder Job Description must contain the following elements:

1. Required Qualifications include:
  - a. Lived experience of mental health recovery and the willingness to share his/her own experiences.
  - b. Ability to work flexible hours.
  - c. Valid Washington Driver's license or the ability to travel via public transportation.
  - d. Ability to meet timely documentation requirements.
  - e. Ability to work in a cooperative and collaborative manner as a team member with hospital staff, MCO/BH-ASO staff, and program Individuals.
  - f. Strong written and verbal communication skills.
  - g. General office and computer experience.
  - h. Washington Certified Peer Specialist with at least two years' experience working as a peer preferred.
  - i. Dress professionally and appropriately.

## **COORDINATION**

1. Participate in statewide Peer Pathfinder administrative support conference calls/coordination meetings as scheduled.
2. Participate in Peer Pathfinder training events scheduled by HCA.
3. Coordinate activities with the Jail Transitions Team and Trueblood Programs where applicable

## **DATA**

Not applicable

## **DELIVERABLES**

Complete the current HCA Peer Pathfinder Jail Transition log and submit to [HCABHASO@hca.wa.gov](mailto:HCABHASO@hca.wa.gov) via secured email. The reports are due April 30 (January-March), July 31 (April-June), October 31 (July-September), and January 31 (October-December).