

Karyn Tribble, PsyD, LCSW

Director

- MEMORANDUM -

Date: June 12, 2025
To: Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) Outpatient Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) and Drug Medi-Cal Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Providers and SMHS Individual Practitioners
From: Khatera Tamplen, Manager, Office of Peer Support Services, Health Equity Division
Torfeh Rejali, LMFT, Division Director, Quality Assurance *Torfeh Rejali*
Subject: ACBHD Peer Support Services Policy & Scholarship and Training Opportunity

The purpose of this memo is to announce the publication of the ACBHD [Peer Support Services Policy & Procedure](#) and enhance the consistency, quality, and efficacy of services provided by Peer Support Specialists and Family Partners within ACBHD and Provider Organizations.

Note: Peer Support Services have been rolled out for SMHS. ACBHD is actively working on implementing them for DMC-ODS and will notify providers, as appropriate. Interested DMC-ODS providers may reach out to peersupportworkforce@acgov.org for more information.

Background

ACBHD has a long history of supporting peer run and family run organizations, providing peer and family support services and offering training programs in our county to guide our efforts.

Additionally, ACBHD acknowledges the role that peer support specialists play in Alameda County's behavioral health system and recognizes that peers have long acted as a part of the treatment and recovery process for individuals and families struggling with mental health and substance use conditions. As individuals with lived experience and family members, peers personally understand the experience of the individuals and families they serve and can help clarify the most effective set of services for each individual's needs.

Procedure Codes for Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists

In support of enhancing Peer Support Services, ACBHD released [Memo 2024-21 Procedure Codes for Peer Support Services \(PSS\)](#) advising providers of new procedure codes for Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists, consistent with the State Plan Amendment

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[SPA 23-0026](#) and Behavioral Health Information Notice [BHIN 22-026](#). Both the memo and the newly published policy describe the differences between certified and non-certified peer support specialists and the procedure codes that may be used by each.

Scholarships for Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Trainings and Certification

ACBHD is pleased to remind our community that we offer scholarships for Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Trainings and Certification. This ongoing initiative aims to empower individuals with lived experience and family members and to expand the capacity of our peer support and family peer support services.

Documentation Training for Peer Support Workforce

ACBHD is collaborating with one of ACBHD's Peer Partners, the Peer Wellness Collective's [BestNow](#) program to host a Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Documentation Training, uniquely designed for the Peer Support workforce. This virtual 7-hour training is being offered on June 23 and again on June 30th, 2025. Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists (MPSS) who complete the training may obtain 6 Continuing Education Units towards their recertification as MPSS.

Attendance is strongly encouraged, and pre-registration is required.

Training Details: Documentation within the Peer Support Workforce

Dates: June 23, 2025, and June 30, 2025

Time: 10am – 5pm (both dates)

Link to Register: [Documentation Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

Next Steps

Please review the policy with your team members and register for the training, as appropriate.

For more information regarding Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Training and Certification scholarships or the new policy, please contact the Office of Peer Support Services- Peer Support Workforce program at peersupportworkforce@acgov.org.

Thank you for your continued commitment to delivering evidence-based Peer Support Services.