

Governors Challenge – Peer to Peer Subgroup

Meeting Minutes

Peer to Peer Subgroup Meeting	
Date	August 5, 2020
Time	2:00 p.m.
Location	Zoom Meeting
Join Zoom Meeting	https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/91336031502?pwd=ell2ZitVUzMvTnJvYUdsSW56U1pmUT09
Meeting ID	913 3603 1502
Password	211555
Dial-in	1 406 444 9999

Attendance	
Kelly Ackerman	Jess Hegstrom
Taryn Phillips	Heather Zimmerman
Megan Grotzke	Robert Mortenson
Doug Stepina	Michael Noyce-Merino

Meeting Minutes	
Discussion Topics	
Kelly	Welcome
Jess	Toolkit Reviewal
<p>Jess reviewed the Toolkit revisions which included; adding a page on Peer Coaches vs Certified Peer Support Specialists descriptions and duties, resources on Substance Use Disorder, information for Self-care and compassion fatigue from National Council for Behavioral Health, resource lists, helpful apps and websites, and revising the wallet card. Jess mentioned the changes will be made by the end of the next week, and the next step would be for the toolkit to be distributed by Kelly to the VSOs. Once distributed to the American Legion and the VFW, there will be a two-week deadline for the VSOs to read through the toolkit and give suggestions, and a sixty-day deadline to pilot the toolkit. Jess suggested we produce evaluation tools and create surveys to keep the group on track with goals. Heather will create a survey for formal questions for accuracy and usage, and a survey for a baseline of information that should be included on the toolkit.</p> <p>Doug shared the link below to evaluate the website for addition to the toolkit. https://proqol.org/ProQol_Test.html. The group decided this link would be a great addition for the supervisors of the Peer Coaches. Jess suggested to share this link to the Facebook</p>	

group “Montana Peer Coaches”, and the group decided to share it to the group. The Facebook group will be the avenue to share trainings and connect Peer Coaches for support.

Heather mentioned “The Bright App” that is designed to help people find mental health care providers to be added to the toolkit. The app is free to use, and its database includes current health care providers in Montana and surrounding areas.

Bob asked Kelly who in the VSOs will be reviewing the toolkit, and Kelly stated since this is a Helena based pilot program, she suggested going through the Adjutants in the American Legion and VFW. Kelly mentioned the reason for the Helena based pilot was to pilot the formal peer support and connect with the VA hospital. Since the toolkit is focused more on informal peers, she suggested branching out of Helena. Jess stated she would like to receive feedback from a rural VSO. The group decided to send to the toolkit to five VSOs throughout Montana. Kelly will choose one VSO in each region/geographical location, and a VSO for Native Americans to produce the most data.

Megan Cox suggested to Jess to add Mental First Aid as a required course with QPR. Kelly was uncertain what the feedback would be if the group requires both courses. Kelly is hesitant to have more than one course as a requirement for the Peer Coaches. Bob mentioned it is a good idea to require Mental First Aid because the majority have already taken QPR, so having the second required course will ensure they were given the materials and education for Peer Coaches. Kelly suggested to require both courses for the pilot and receive feedback from the VSOs if they both should be required, or just QPR. Doug suggested to have QPR be required initially and give the Peer Coaches one year to complete Mental First Aid.

Doug suggested to create a team for Peer Coaches and Peer Support Specialists, so every person has a support team to handle situations.

Kelly & Taryn

Review Action Items

Kelly and Taryn reviewed the document for the work plan submitted to Karl. They went through each task that was due in July, and the upcoming due dates in September. Kelly mentioned we are on track for tasks being completed. The group decided to have the tasks due in September to be done by September 15th and submitted to Kelly. Megan mentioned she would like to put together a planner to keep track of tasks, due dates, people responsible, and updates. The planner will need to be accessible to the whole group to continually be updated as work is completed. Kelly mentioned she would like to see a calendar format for the timeline work plan.

Action Items

Person Responsible	Action	Due Date
Matt Furlong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish criteria, application, and process to qualify appropriate candidates to serve as Veteran Peer Support Specialist • Create scholarship forms and process for paying for peer training, including technology, equipment, registration, tuition, travel, and per diem • Create contract for peers designating their time commitment and other requirements for service at either the Helena Vet Center or Fort Harrison VA Hospital • Montana Peer Network training update to Kelly Ackerman 	September 15 th , 2020
Jess Hegstrom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create multi-platform communication plan to recruit peer candidates who are service members, veterans, or family members of service members • Email Heather to create survey questions • Work with Doug and Bob for MOU with the VA 	September 15 th , 2020
Kelly Ackerman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select 5 VSOs to pilot the Toolkit • Send Toolkit to VSOs 	September 15 th , 2020
Taryn Phillips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a database to track Peer First Aids • Schedule the next meeting • Work with Megan to create a planner/calendar 	August 5 th , 2020 September 15 th , 2020
Megan Grotzke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create recruiting/advertising materials 	September 15 th , 2020
Heather Zimmerman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create surveys 	September 15 th , 2020