

One Care Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) Qualitative Research Study

Conducted by the Disability Policy Consortium (DPC) YESHealth project team
In collaboration with and support from the Community Living Policy Center (CLPC)

Purpose of study

The purpose of the study is to:

- get a baseline understanding of One Care enrollee experience working with Certified Peer Specialists (CPSs)
- disseminate a policy brief based on research findings to advocates and policymakers for the purpose of enhancing enrollee experience working with CPSs in One Care

Background

- CPSs provide an important service to people in recovery. One Care plans are required by contract to provide certified peer specialists to persons who can benefit from such services whether or not they are eligible for services through DMH.
- The project is supported by funding from the Lurie Institute for Disability Policy Community Living Policy Center (CLPC) as part of a larger grant from the National Institute on Disability Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research, a disability research organization.
- Goals of CLPC include understanding:
 - "[W]hat policies help people with disabilities participate in the community, and what policies prevent them from being fully integrated?"
 - "What policies are the most effective in ensuring that people with disabilities can live and participate in the community?"
- Research on the experiences of One Care members working with CPSs is the second phase of a project that began with research on the experiences of One Care enrollees working with Long-Term Services and Supports Coordinators (LTS-Cs). Both projects are aligned with the goals set out by CLPC.

Evolving Methodology

- Qualitative research using Community-Based Participatory Action Research
 - lived experience experts
 - research advisory committee
 - DPC staff
- Interview priority groups
 - Informal conversations with CPS vendors and RLCs
 - Interview 30 One Care members with experience working with CPSs
 - Interview one representative from each One Care plan
 - interview three CPSs
 - interview one DMH representative
- Disseminate a policy brief to advocates and other stakeholders that will assist in strengthening one member's experiences working with CPSs.

Next steps

- Improve strategies for accessing One Care members with experience working with CPSs
 - Increase buy-in from One Care plans and other stakeholders
 - Increase awareness and buy-in of vendors, RLCs, and other groups
- Interview stakeholders
- Interview 24 enrollees