

## NORTHCARE NETWORK

<b>POLICY TITLE:</b> Peer Specialist Services	<b>REVIEW/REVISED DATE:</b>
<b>POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> February 2, 2011	<b>BOARD ADOPTED DATE:</b> February 2, 2011
<b>BOARD ADOPTED REVISION(S):</b>	<b>CORRESPONDING DIRECTIVE:</b>

### **POLICY**

Peer Specialist Services will be available at the five Community Mental Health Service Providers (CMHSP) in the Upper Peninsula as directed by Michigan Department of Community Health Contract Section 2.1.2 1915(c) Services.

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Peer Support Specialists (PSS)** are individuals in recovery, living with a serious mental illness, who are trained and have been certified as Peer Support Specialists. They use their experiences to provide recovery oriented services and support to others with mental illness. PSS services are described in the MDCH Medicaid Provider Manual.

### **PROCEDURES**

#### A. NorthCare Network Responsibilities

1. Provide technical assistance to support the recruitment, hiring, and evaluation of staff who meet the requirements to provide Peer Support services.
2. Coordinate a regional learning collaborative for the PSS to enhance training opportunities and to offer a forum for professional growth.
3. Work with the CMHSPs to develop consumer outcome measurements of the effectiveness of PSS services.

#### B. CMHSP Responsibilities

1. Provide individuals with serious mental illness access to peer specialist services. Access is provided directly by the CMHSP or by contract provider.
2. Assure PSS are provided the appropriate training and supervision
3. Work with NorthCare to develop consumer outcome measurements of the effectiveness of PSS services.

C. Refer to *NorthCare Clinical Practices Guideline Manual –Integrating PSS in Clinical Services* for specific guidance for developing PSS as part of the CMHSP workforce.

### **REFERENCES**

- ❖ Medicaid Coverage of Peer Support for People with Mental Illness: Available Research and State Examples, Thomsen Reuters 11-6-2008
- ❖ [www.Rand.org](http://www.Rand.org) Mental Health Consumer Providers—A Guide for Clinical Staff, RAND Health, 2008
- ❖ Medicaid Managed Specialty Supports and Services Concurrent 1915(b)/(c) Waiver Program FY 11
- ❖ [www.northcare-up.org](http://www.northcare-up.org) NorthCare Clinical Practice Guidelines Manual