NCCDD INITIATIVE 2021



Peer Mentoring for People with I/DD: Second Cohort Year 2

10/1/2021 - 3/31/2022

System Gap Addressed

- Medicaid benefits covering peer support services for individuals with mental illness and/or addiction disorders are well established, and peer mentors have shown positive outcomes.
- Peer support services for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) are not well established.
- This initiative aims to demonstrate that peer mentors with I/DD can positively impact the lives of other individuals with I/DD and their families.

Initiative Goals and Timeline

- Develop and test a peer mentor training curriculum to increase peer mentor programs for individuals with I/DD.
- Train 7 10 Peer Mentors.
- Promote the Community Health Worker job position as developed by Alliance Health Care Management.
- Develop additional job description(s) for peer mentor with I/DD.
- This investment by the NCCDD is for up to six months: October 2021 through March 31, 2022.

Description of Activities

Coordinated by Community Bridges Consulting Group, this initiative is a joint venture of Optum and the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) and the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities. The purpose of the Peer Mentoring Training for People with I/DD: Second Cohort is to implement the piloted peer mentoring training program for individuals who live independently with the use of Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS). Cohort members will learn key concepts to support peers with I/DD. All classes incorporate learning activities to be done as a group and individually, as well as knowledge checks. Participants will complete a pre-training and post-training evaluation to provide feedback which will be incorporated to improve the overall curriculum. Initiative activities include:

- Recruiting, interviewing and selecting peer mentor trainees.
- Assessing and assisting with accommodation needs for peer mentors.
- Implementing Peer Mentor Training for 7-10 participants.
- Developing local connections and providing guidance to advance the initiative.
- Developing/finalizing a job description in concert with project partners.

ExpectedOutcomes

- Implement the piloted curriculum to train 7 10 Peer Mentors with individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.
- Conduct evaluation of Peer Mentor Training for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities curriculum.
- Build and manage relationships with and among partners and other key stakeholders and serve as a resource for content, ideas and thought partnership.
- Create infrastructure for networked connectivity, acting as a liaison to build deep, sustainable partnerships, prioritizing transformational change.
- Analyze a diversity of data points to inform next steps and long-term goals.
- Identify and respond to conflicts and misalignment between stakeholders.
- Lead monthly stakeholder calls and other activities that deepen connections and relationships to and among stakeholders.
- Gainful employment for graduates of the Peer Mentor Training for people with I/DD.