

PREPARED BY: Lyon/Lemonds/Oseguera

AGENDA ITEM: Presentation on Employment Opportunities for People With Lived Experience in the Community Mental Health System**ENCLOSURES:**

- “Draft” Final Report: Recommendations from the Statewide Summit on Certification of Peer Providers

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM: PowerPoints handouts will be available at the meeting

Presentation:

A panel of members representing Working Well Together (WWT) will participate as panelists to speak about peer certification of employees with consumer, family member, parent and caregiver experiences.

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) provides a vehicle to develop and expand the role of “peer” employees, who are those with lived experience as consumers, parents and/or family members, in the community mental health system with intent to increase peer support and services to mental health consumers and families across the State.

There has been extensive research and evaluation of the feasibility for inclusion of Peer Support into a State Plan amendment for Specialty Mental Health services that WWT has been involved with. WWT has engaged stakeholders in on-going efforts to provide feedback and recommendations regarding inclusion of peer support as a part of services provided under Specialty Mental Health. The development of a statewide Certification for Peer Support Specialists is the focus of the attached report. Development of a statewide certification process is necessary for California to include in their request for a State Plan amendment. The attached draft report titled, “Final Report: Recommendations from the Statewide Summit on Certification of Peer Providers” provides seventeen draft recommendations regarding the certification.

Presenters:

- **Michael Wimberly**, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), Manager, Healthcare Reform Team
- **Debbie Van Dunk**, United Advocates for Children and Families (UACF) Technical Assistance Coordinator, WWT
- **Katherine Ferry**, National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), WWT Governing Board Member
- **Sharon Kuehn**, California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations (CAMHPRO)-Peers Envisioning and Engaging in Recovery Services (PEERS), Working Well Together (WWT) Governing Board Member

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Background:

The OSHPD oversees the WWT contract that is funded by the MHSA. The WWT Training and Technical Assistance Center (WWT TAC) supports the vision of the MHSA to transform systems to be client and family-driven. As such, WWT supports the sustained development of client, family member and parent/caregiver employment within every level of the public mental health workforce and has a deliverable to develop stakeholder and topic expert-informed recommendations for next steps in establishing statewide standards for the California Consumer/Family Parent Certification.

The WWT TAC ensures public mental health agencies are prepared to recruit, hire, train support and retain multicultural clients, family members, parents and caregivers as employees within the public mental health system. WWT is a collaborative project comprised of the following:

- PEERS
- NAMI California
- UACF
- California Institute for Mental Health (CiMH)

There are four WWT TAC Coordinators, one from each of the WWT partner agencies that work in five regions of the state to help develop approaches for the successful employment of clients and family members statewide.