

July 2016 eCast

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The Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation is recruiting participants for an internet survey about professional practices that can promote vocational recovery

Have you seen a vocational counselor or an employment specialist (or other vocational provider) in the past year to help you get or keep a job? If so, we would like your opinion about that experience.

Please visit the survey to participate.

Webinar on employment

Please join us for a Webinar on **Paving the Way to Employment for Persons with Mental Health Conditions: the Canadian Experience** on Thursday, August 26, 2016 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. eastern daylight savings time. This presentation will be primarily for Employment Specialists, Rehabilitation Counselors and practitioners concerned with promoting successful employment. All are welcome including persons in recovery, family members, benefits specialists, supervisors, administrators, educators and others.

The webinar will address such topics as: the partnerships necessary for overcoming barriers to employment; preparing individuals for choosing and getting meaningful employment; working with employers; disclosure issues; evidence-based and promising practices; the interactions of wages and benefits; growth opportunities, peer support and rural job development.

Presenters will include:

Joan C. Rapp, M.Ed., CAGS, Boston University Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation who has been in the psychiatric rehabilitation field focusing on employment and education for almost 50 years. At Boston University she focuses on continuing education for those who work in psychiatric rehabilitation.

Elizabeth Van Houtte, Ph.D., RSW, CPRP. Elizabeth has worked in the field of mental health for the past 28 years. As a specialist in Supported Employment, Elizabeth has been a trainer and educator for mental health professionals both in Canada and the United States. She currently is a sessional Professor in the School of Social Work at Laurentian University, Barrie Ontario Campus.

To enroll in the webinar you will need access to the internet and a telephone (together). For registration please go to: <https://mhcanada.eventbrite.com>

2016 National Peer Support Conference (August 26-28) & Summer Institutes (August 22-25)

Join the International Association of Peer Supporters (iNAPS) in Philadelphia on August 26-28, for the 10th Annual National Peer Support Conference. With nationally-recognized featured presenters and over 60 advanced level workshops, the conference promises enhanced skills and leading examples of innovations in peer support services.

Prior to the conference, between August 22-25, a series of Summer Institutes will be held in and around Philadelphia, independently organized and offered by some of the leading training providers and peer practitioners, to those who will be in Philadelphia at that time.

To learn more about the Conference and the Summer Institutes, see the 2016 National Peer Support Conference Flyer

NEW!! Self-Directed Skill Lessons: Skills for Being a Friend

The skill lessons in [Skills for Being a Friend](#) are:

- Acknowledging Praise
- Expressing Appreciation
- Giving Compliments
- Expressing Interest
- Responding to Feelings

- Extending Invitations
- Responding to Invitations
- Choosing Gifts

The [Self-Directed Skill Lessons](#) include outlines, examples, and practices in each skill lesson; and they are designed to walk an individual through how to perform the skill one step at a time. These skill lessons may be used by individuals in a self-directed way and by practitioners as part of a skill teaching curriculum.

For more information about the *Self-Directed Skill Lessons*, go to: </store/curricula/self-directed-skill-lessons/>

For any questions about this product, please contact Sue McNamara by e-mail at suemacs@bu.edu or by phone at (617) 358-2574.

Online course on Job Development and Job Retention for Persons in Recovery

A course for Employment Specialists, Rehabilitation Counselors, Vocational Peer Specialists and others working to improve employment outcomes.

Enroll in our 10-week online course, 5 online Modules and 6 web/discussion meetings. At the end of each Module is a test and a Discussion Board. The curriculum has been piloted in 4 states and has been delivered to six additional classes of Employment Specialists throughout the U.S. and internationally.

Registration is open now for the next session beginning September 21. Be sure to review the website for full information on this program. There is a fee for this course and some CEU's are available. For information or registration please click here for the website or contact the instructor, Joan Rapp, at [617-353-3549](tel:617-353-3549) or joanrapp@bu.edu.

Find out more about the course

Books Discounted for Books + Tests offerings for Continuing Education

Many of the books published by the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation are on sale, 50%-75% off! Professional Development Program hours in psychiatric rehabilitation are offered in a reading and testing format, using books published by the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation.

For more information about the Books + Tests options and about ordering, go to: </store/courses/books-tests>

For any questions, please contact Sue McNamara by e-mail at suemacs@bu.edu or by phone at (617) 358-2574.

Online Technical Assistance Response for Employment Service Providers

The Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation is currently offering an online technical assistance service to organizations providing employment services to people in mental health recovery. As a component of the Center's National Resource Center of Employment and Vocational Recovery, the service will be offered at no expense to the organization. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Institute on Disability and Independent Living Research and Rehabilitation (NIDILRR) fund the project.

What is the focus of the service?

Assisting organizations to build program structures and components to address a range of individual and environmental factors that impact employment and vocational recovery outcomes including:

- Overcoming Stigma
- Employment Services to Special Needs/Underserved Populations
- Integrating the Peer Workforce
- Using Social Capital to Improve Employment Outcome
- Impacting Family and Provider Perceptions of Employment
- Financial Self-Sufficiency and Asset Management
- Benefits Counseling
- Engaging Employers
- Self-Employment and Micro-enterprise Pathways to Employment
- Peer-driven Social Marketing
- Recovery Oriented Employment Approaches
- Promoting Work-Life Balance for Employment Retention
- Peer Employment Support
- Career Development
- Integrating Individual Planning and Support with other Employment Services
- Integrating Employment and Treatment Services

How are the services provided?

The technical assistance will be provided through webinars, conference calls, and email. Following an initial exploration to establish the area of need, each organization will be matched with a consultant who has expertise in the topic area. With support from Center for Psychiatric project leader, the consultant and organization staff members will establish the goal of the technical assistance and develop a plan to guide the actions of the consultant and organization staff for accomplishing the goal. More than one technical assistance topic may be addressed and ongoing technical assistance activities will be provided for up to one year after establishing the initial goal. After conclusion of the technical assistance, the organization completes a brief online evaluation survey.

What were the outputs of the TA during the yearlong pilot?

- A training and individual support program to enhance participant knowledge about financial self-sufficiency and asset management
- Presentation slides designed to increase treatment providers' referral to and support of employment services
- A cadre of Peers supported and trained to present their personal employment success stories to other Peers, providers, family members in order to increase confidence and motivation to engage in employment services
- A comprehensive manual of best practice strategies and skills for engaging employers
- Informational support and guidance for effectively utilizing WICA and for selecting staff training programs on financial and medical benefits

How do I begin receiving the technical assistance or find out more about the service?

To learn more about the service or to begin the technical assistance process, contact:
Rick Forbess, Project Director
rforbess@bu.edu

LinkedIn Group: Employing People with Psychiatric Disabilities

If you are a person in recovery, employer, or supporter of people with psychiatric disabilities, we invite you to join the Center's new LinkedIn group. For more information, or to join, please visit our LinkedIn page.

This project was developed under a grant with funding from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research, and from the Center for Mental Health Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, United States Department of Health and Human Services (NIDILRR grant 90RT5029). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this project do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.