

Peer Specialist/Recovery Coach Role

What a Peer Supporter Is/Does	Is Not/Does Not
A person in recovery	A professional
Shares lived experience	Gives professional advice
A role model	An expert or authority figure
Sees the person as a whole person in the context of the person's roles, family, community	Sees the person as a case or diagnosis
Motivates through hope and inspiration	Motivates through fear of negative consequences
Supports many pathways to recovery	Prescribes one specific pathway to recovery
Functions as an advocate for the person in recovery, both within and outside of the program	Represent perspective of the program
Teaches the person how to accomplish daily tasks	Does tasks for the person
Teaches how to acquire needed resources,	Gives resources and money to the person
Helps the person find basic necessities	Provides basic necessities such as a place to live
Uses language based on common experiences	Uses clinical language
Helps the person find professional services from lawyers, doctors, psychologists, financial advisers	Provides professional services
Shares knowledge of local resources	Provides case management services
Encourages, supports, praises	Diagnoses, assesses, treats
Helps to set personal goals	Mandates tasks and behaviors
A role model for positive recovery behaviors	Tells person how to lead his/her life in recovery
Provides peer support services	Does whatever the program insists he/she do