National Practice Guidelines for Peer Specialists and Supervisors

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Webinar details

**Type of Activity:** Instructor-led recorded webinar (home study)

**Cost:** Free of charge

**Duration/time:** 1.5 CE hours (90 minutes)

**Speakers:**

Jonathan P. Edwards, PhD, LCSW, ACSW, NYCPS  
National Association of Peer Supporters (N.A.P.S.)

Joanne Forbes, PhD, CPRP  
Baltic Street AEH
Target audience: This webinar is intended for administrative, programmatic and clinical staff working in mental health and substance use disorder treatment settings where recovery-focused initiatives are being implemented; in particular, within programs where peer support services are already part of the care continuum as well as within programs considering, or in the early stages of, integrating peer support services.

Goal: To provide a brief background of peer support services; familiarize attendees with development of National Practice Guidelines for Peer Specialists and Supervisors; demonstrate, using interactive exercises, actionable steps for operationalizing these Guidelines; and share key findings from research on supervision of peer specialists by non-peer supervisors.

Learning objectives: Upon completion of this activity, participants should be able to:
1. Describe the process through which the National Practice Guidelines for Peer Specialists and Supervisors were developed.
2. List at least four Core Values of Peer Support and corresponding Peer Supporter Guidelines and Supervisor Guidelines.
3. Explain how the Guidelines for Supervisors can be used as a self-assessment for supervisors to improve the supervision experience.

Course outline: In this webinar, presenters will cover:
1. Emergence of peer specialist workforce and billable services
2. Development of Core Values and National Practice Guidelines for Peer Specialists
3. Identification and assessment of resources on peer support workforce needs
4. Development and application of National Practice Guidelines for Supervisors
5. Summary of research on supervision of peer specialists by non-peer supervisors
6. Questions and answers
About the speakers

Jonathan P. Edwards, PhD consults nationally on peer support services implementation and supervision and plays an integral role in advancing peer workforce development. Jonathan wears many hats; recently earning a PhD from the Social Welfare program at CUNY Graduate Center and a Doctoral Fellow in the SAMHSA-funded Council on Social Work Education’s Minority Fellowship Program; as an adjunct professor at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College; as a licensed clinical social worker and member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers; as a program consultant, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use Prevention, Care, and Treatment; as a member of the National Association of Peer Supporters Board; as an executive member of the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board; a New York Certified Peer Specialist; and a person in long-term recovery.

Joanne Forbes, PhD CPRP is a graduate of Rutgers University’s Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation. Her research addressed the experiences of peer support specialists supervised by non-peer supervisors. She has years of experience in the field of psychiatry as a therapist, educator, advocate, and administrator. She is a frequent presenter at conferences and is the author of the book, Madness: Heroes Returning from the Front Lines. She is one of the original founders of Baltic Street AEH, Inc. one of the largest national peer run agencies. She has been widely recognized by state and national organizations as a visionary and advocate for those diagnosed with mental illness.

Rita Cronise, MS, ALWF is an instructional designer with lived experience of a major mental health diagnosis who has been a certified peer support specialist, an advanced level WRAP facilitator, peer specialist training developer, and served as acting director for the International Association of Peer Supporters (iNAPS) from 2015-2017 where she had previously coordinated development of the National Practice Guidelines for the peer workforce and a SAMHSA-funded advanced level training for peer specialists. Rita holds a distance faculty position at Rutgers University on the Academy of Peer Services (APS) online training for the New York State peer specialist certification. She coordinates the Virtual Learning Community, which serves as a bridge from online learning to real world practice. She continues to serve on a national peer support workforce workgroup with iNAPS and lectures nationally on peer support values, practice and supervision.

Ivanna Bond is a mental health advocate and survivor with over 25 years' in nonprofit business management experience. She is a graduate of the Howie the Harp peer training program at Community Access. In the context of her Howie the Harp training she worked at the ACT Institute at the Center for Practice Innovation at the NY State Psychiatric Institute/Columbia University, on a Scope of Practice Guideline for Peers on ACT Teams in NY State. Bond is also chairperson of the NYC Peer Workforce Coalition, a professional association for peer workers (peer specialists and peer advocates).

Disclosures
Jonathan P. Edwards, PhD, Joanne Forbes, PhD CPRP, Rita Cronise, MS, ALWF, and Ivanna Bond have no relevant financial relationship commercial interest that could be reasonably construed as a conflict of interest.
CE credit eligibility

**Eligible CE hours:** 1.5 CE hours (90 minutes)
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**Additional information**

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