Certified Recovery Specialist/Community Healthcare Worker Program

Presented By: Amy Brinkley, Bureau Chief, Office of Consumer and Family Affairs, DMHA
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Certified Recovery Specialist

By Amy Brinkley
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Date: June 21, 2018
What is a Certified Recovery Specialist (CRS)?

• An individual who can use their own lived life experiences to help others (peers) through treatment and toward the path of sustained recovery from mental illness and/or substance abuse.
• Must have firsthand experience with a mental illness and/or substance abuse challenge as well as have lived in recovery for at least one year.
• Work very closely with case management staff in order to assist clients in maintaining long-term recovery.
• The primary focus of a CRS is maintained support in the recovery process.

https://peernetworkindiana.org/
CRSs enhance the effectiveness of treatment in the health care system. They assist consumers in the following ways:

- Provide outreach during early recovery
- Co-develop a personal recovery plan
- Articulate personal goals for recovery and holistic steps toward long-term recovery
- Assist in accessing community resources
- Create smooth transitions in level of care changes to ensure a continuum of support
- Guide and educate through the recovery process
- Engage in the recovery community
- Promote accountability and provide support before, during and after treatment
- Advocate for needs and community education about mental illness and substance abuse
- Facilitate recovery support groups
- Shared problem solving to identify and overcome barriers
- Explore and apply personal strengths
- Build positive social skills through role modeling

https://peernetworkindiana.org/
CRS Training

CRS certification involves a five day training, where participants are taught the skills they need to know to effectively mentor their peers; there is an exam at the end of the five day training that tests the knowledge participants have gained. Once a participant has passed the exam, they receive a formal state certification. Peers who complete and pass the CRS training also become certified as CHWs, as the CHW training is included in the 5-day CRS training.

https://peernetworkindiana.org/
Cummins Behavioral Health Systems is adding a full time or part time Peer Recovery Specialist to work with our existing interdisciplinary team focused on recovery and goal achievement of residents here in Putnam County.

**Cummins provides you…**
- Competitive salaries
- Excellent work life balance (paid time off and holidays)
- Comprehensive benefit package (health, dental, vision, prescription drug and more)
- Matching contributions to your 401K program
- **Cummins** is one of the State's top-rated community mental/behavioral health and addiction services centers in Customer Satisfaction as recognized by the **Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction**.

**Duties Include:**
- Engage in assessments, person-centered service planning, and culturally competent service delivery
- Use unique skills and life experiences to guide the individuals served through the multiple life challenges and opportunities that exist

**Education and/or Experience:**
- Prefer candidates have experience with addictions.
- Minimum of a high school diploma or GED is required
- Must be able to verify completion of a state-approved Certified Health Worker/Certified Recovery Specialist (CHW/CRS) training program with a passing score on certification exam or certification as a Certified Addiction Peer Recovery Coach (CAPRC) with supporting verification documentation.

Apply at [www.cumminsbhs.org](http://www.cumminsbhs.org) today!
Peer Recovery (Medicaid Definition)

- Peer Recovery services are individual face-to-face services that provide structured, scheduled activities that promote socialization, recovery, self-advocacy, development of natural supports, and maintenance of community living skills.
- To be reimbursed for Peer Recovery services, the service must be provided by a certified recovery specialist (CRS) defined as individuals meeting DMHA training and competency standards for Peer Recovery services. Individuals providing Peer Recovery services must be under the supervision of a licensed professional or QBHP.
- Documentation must be provided for each encounter and must reflect:
  - All items under general requirements
  - Nature of the services delivered to the member
  - Issues addressed during the session
  - Total number of minutes in the session
  - Progress made toward recovery goals
- Peer Recovery services must be identified in the IICP and correspond to specific treatment goals.

Peer Recovery Services are included in adult service packages only and limited to the following:

- 104 units for service package 3
- 156 units for service package 4
- 208 units for service package 5
- 260 units for service package 5A

PA is required for members requiring additional units of this service. See Appendix A for information regarding units and service packages.
HCPCS Code for MRO Peer Recovery Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code and Modifiers</th>
<th>Code Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>H0038 HW</td>
<td>Self-help/peer recovery services, per 15 minutes; funded by state mental health agency</td>
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Target Population

Peer Recovery Services may be provided for members age 18 and older with an ANSA level of need of 3 or higher. Peer Recovery Services may be provided to a member age 16 or 17 with an approved PA.

http://provider.indianamedicaid.com/media/155553/medicaid%20rehabilitation%20option%20services.pdf
Exclusions

1. Peer Recovery Services that are purely recreational or diversionary in nature, or have no therapeutic or programmatic content, will not be reimbursed.

2. Interventions targeted to groups are not billable as Peer Recovery Services.

3. Activities that may be billed under Skills Training and Development or under Case Management are not billable as Peer Recovery Services.

4. Peer Recovery Services are not reimbursable for children under the age of 16.

5. Peer Recovery Services that occur in a group setting are not reimbursable.

http://provider.indianamedicaid.com/media/155553/medicaid%20rehabilitation%20option%20services.pdf
Community Healthcare Worker

By Amy Brinkley
Bureau Chief, Office of Consumer and Family Affairs
Division of Mental Health and Addictions

Dated June 19th, 2018
What is a Community Health Worker (CHW)?

• The CHW is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the CHW to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence or service delivery.

• CHWs must complete a 3-day training in order to become certified. CHWs are not required to have a lived experience with a mental health condition or substance use disorder.

https://peernetworkindiana.org/
IHCP adds coverage of community health worker services

Evidence shows that using community health workers (CHWs) to extend the reach of healthcare providers in underserved communities reduces health disparities, enhances provider communication, and improves health outcomes and overall quality measures. Accordingly, effective July 1, 2018, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) will provide reimbursement for services provided by CHWs. Coverage for CHW services applies to all IHCP programs subject to limitations established for certain benefit packages, for dates of service (DOS) on or after July 1, 2018.

IHCP has adopted the definition of a CHW from the American Public Health Association: A community health worker (CHW) is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the CHW to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery. A CHW also builds individual and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support and advocacy.

Certification cont...

CHWs will not enroll as providers with the IHCP. Rather, CHWs are required to be employed by an IHCP-enrolled billing provider and to deliver services under the supervision of one of the following IHCP-enrolled provider types:

- Physician
- Health services provider in psychology (HSPP)
- Advanced practice nurse (APN)
- Physician assistant (PA)
- Podiatrist
- Chiropractor

[link](http://provider.indianamedicaid.com/ihcp/Bulletins/BT201826.pdf)
Certification cont...

The billing provider must maintain documentation of CHW certification for the individual providing the CHW services. The IHCP will recognize certification from the following entities to demonstrate that the core competencies of a CHW have been met:

- Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana (MANI)
- Affiliated Service Providers of Indiana (ASPIN)
- HealthVisions Midwest

List to be updated regularly.....

The IHCP expects to add recognition of certifications from other training organizations that address the following identified CHW competencies:

- Communication skills
- Interpersonal and relationship building skills
- Service coordination and navigation skills
- Capacity-building skills
- Advocacy skills
- Education and facilitation skills
- Individual and community assessment skills
- Outreach skills
- Professional skills and conduct
- Evaluation and research skills
- Knowledge base

Certification recognition may include individuals who have an academic degree (at least an associate’s degree) in a healthcare-related field or have employer-based training around health promotion and community health integration that provides training in the above identified CHW competencies.

Watch for future IHCP publications for more information.
Covered and noncovered CHW services

The IHCP will cover the following CHW services:

• Diagnosis-related patient education for members regarding self-managing physical or mental health, in conjunction with a healthcare team - This service allows a CHW to extend education efforts associated with any physical or mental health concern that a member may encounter.

• Facilitation of cultural brokering between a member and the member’s healthcare team - This service allows a CHW to act as a facilitator between a Medicaid member and a provider when cultural factors (such as language or socioeconomic status) become a barrier to properly understanding treatment options or treatment plans.

• Health promotion education to a member on behalf of the healthcare team to prevent chronic illness - This service allows a CHW to discuss and promote healthy behaviors with a member to increase awareness and avoid the development of chronic illnesses.

• Direct preventive services or services aimed at slowing the progression of chronic diseases

Covered and noncovered CHW services

The IHCP will not cover the following CHW services:

- Insurance enrollment and “navigator” assistance
- Case management and care coordination
- Arranging for transportation or providing transportation for a member to and from services
- Direct patient care outside the level of training and certification an individual has attained

Billing for CHW services

IHCP billing providers can submit claims for employed CHWs who are under the supervision of one of the provider types mentioned previously in this bulletin. The following procedure codes will be covered for billing CHW services:

- 98960 - Self-management education & training, face-to-face, 1 patient
- 98961 - Self-management education & training, face-to-face, 2-4 patients
- 98962 - Self-management education & training, face-to-face, 5-8 patients

These procedure codes will be covered for DOS on or after July 1, 2018, and will only be used to indicate CHW services. The following reimbursement guidelines apply

Coverage parameters and limitations - The IHCP will apply the following coverage parameters and limitations to CHW services:

- Covered CHW services must be provided face-to-face with the member, individually or in a group, in an outpatient, home, clinic, or other community setting.
- Covered CHW services are limited to 4 units (or 2 hours) per day, per member.
- Covered CHW services are limited to 24 units (or 12 hours) per month, per member.

- Prior authorization - Prior authorization (PA) is not required for CHW services. The billing provider must maintain documentation of medical necessity for any services provided by a CHW. Providers are expected to adhere to the established unit limitations; adherence will be subject to postpayment review.
- Pricing - 50% of resource-based relative value scale (RBRVS)
- Billing guidance - The following billing guidance applies:

Services must be billed on a professional CMS-1500 claim form or its electronic equivalent. (Hospital Assessment Fee [HAF] adjustments are not available for CHW services.)

The supervising provider should be billed as the rendering provider on the claim.

Claims must include the name of the CHW in the claim notes.

Procedure codes for CHW services should be billed in 30-minute units.

 Separate claim lines should be billed for each DOS that services are provided.

Claims must include an appropriate diagnosis.

Coverage of CHW procedure codes will be reflected in the next regular update to the IHCP Professional Fee Schedule at indianamedicaid.com.

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https://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/4339.htm

Sources:
https://peernetworkindiana.org/
http://provider.indianamedicaid.com/media/155553/medicaid%20rehabilitation%20option%20services.pdf