



COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Community of Practice Schedule: January – June 2023

The Peer Recovery Center of Excellence hosts monthly communities of practice, a type of affinity call, as spaces for peer recovery support specialists and those who supervise them to network, learn, share, practice, and grow together. The goal of these calls is to bring together a variety of diverse perspectives from across the country to share in mutual learning that is centered on topics relevant to the peer workforce.

Each month the Peer Recovery CoE hosts two Community of Practice sessions:

- A session for **Peer Recovery Support Specialists (PRSS)** convenes on the third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 – 3:30 pm Eastern (1pm Central / 12pm Mountain / 11am Pacific)
- A session for **Supervisors of PRSS** convenes on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2:00 – 3:30 pm Eastern (1pm Central / 12pm Mountain / 11am Pacific)

JANUARY 2023

Wednesday, January 18th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for **PRSS: *Peer Work in Institutional Settings***

This community of practice will focus on the Certified Peer Specialist program within the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. Come hear about how the program was started, training and certification processes for the people experiencing incarceration, what peer support services look like within the institutions, and more.

- Facilitators: Dr. Tracy Johnson & Dr. Allyson Eparvier
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYtcOqupz8iGd0f-Y7RdUETwrwgjTCjMexw>

Wednesday, January 25th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for **Supervisors of PRSS: *Transitioning from a Direct Service Role to a Supervisory Role***

This community of practice will focus on navigating the experience of becoming a supervisor after having previously provided direct service peer support. It will include conversation about navigating power dynamics, shifting relationships, and the experience of being a first-time supervisor.

- Facilitator: Daniel Hatcher
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJElf-6spj4jE9E6wPi8qmniJtTMjPK2U3M3>

FEBRUARY 2023

Wednesday, February 15th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for **PRSS: *Exploring and Understanding Foundational Principles and Values of Harm Reduction***

This community of practice will feature staff from the National Harm Reduction Coalition facilitating conversation about the harm reduction framework. Come learn about the history of the harm reduction movement, the values and principles that continue to guide it today, and the importance of centering this framework as harm reduction becomes more visible around the country.

- Facilitators: National Harm Reduction Coalition - Taylor Edelmann
- Register: https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0vdemorDsvGd0_hHmV2eqxl7eOWrWnQ0n7

Wednesday, February 22nd

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for **Supervisors of PRSS: *Writing and Implementing Policies and Procedures that Support People with Lived Experience***

This community of practice will focus on ways to create programmatic and organizational policies that support people with lived experience. There will be time spent on exploring why this is so important, how it supports the provision of effective peer support services, and how well-written policies impact staff retention.

- Facilitator: Tiffany Irvin
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMvdOihqjksGNHSG6nHEKffEgmfTDIdVYQO>

MARCH 2023

Wednesday, March 15th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for PRSS: *The Hope of Harm Reduction: Shared Values in Peer Support*

Description coming soon.

- Facilitators: Caroline Mazel-Carlton
- Register: https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEvdemurD8sHtMpac2zoN81li6_hnee6anm

Wednesday, March 22nd

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for Supervisors of PRSS: *Navigating Educational Stigma in Professional Settings*

This community of practice will explore how PRSS are impacted by the belief that people in behavioral healthcare systems with higher education experiences are more qualified than those without. It will include conversation about designing hiring processes that de-center educational experience, exploring career ladders that don't require degrees, and the importance of expanding what qualifies people to do good work.

- Facilitators: Tim Saubers
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcuf-yqrTsqE9yXZMPqizM6twWHPbyF5-y1>

APRIL 2023

Wednesday, April 19th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for PRSS: *Exploring and Defining Lived Experience*

This community of practice will focus on understanding how we define lived experience. It will explore the impact of limiting the definition of lived experience to mental health and / or substance use challenges on peer support. There will also be discussion of how we can find connection and provide peer support even when we don't have the same lived experience as the people we're providing services to.

- Facilitator: Kelly Davis
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEvfugvrz8oH9MZ8MPOLo2ax8uqX9Ep3Nlb>

Wednesday, April 26th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for **Supervisors of PRSS: *How Peer is our Peerness?***

Peer Support is a distinct practice with its own principles and practices. In our daily challenges to meet people's needs, peerness can be left behind. This interactive discussion will revisit what PEER means (and doesn't mean) and what it looks like in daily practice as a self-check for us all.

- Facilitator: Lyn Legere
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYpce-tqzluGNCjJGjozLeMAhh3nTqDiVFQ>

MAY 2023

Wednesday, May 17th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for **PRSS: *The Value of the Lived Experience of Suicide***

This community of practice will center on people with the lived experience of attempting to die by suicide. It will include conversation about how employers may respond when people with this lived experience choose to disclose, how comfort with sharing this experience can lead to deeper connection in peer support services, and why it's important to center this lived experience in the development of crisis service systems.

- Facilitator: Kirill Staklo
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMud-mppjoqGdQiHiZLJ6YFXVF1I fkZ1vr>

Wednesday, May 24th

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community of Practice for **Supervisors of PRSS: *Lived Experience Requirements for Hiring PRSS***

This community of practice will focus on best practices for hiring peer recovery support specialists with a focus on common lived experience requirements. It will include discussion about the importance of centering peer values in setting these requirements, the impact they have on workforce development, and an exploration of why employers feel these are necessary.

- Facilitator: Achara Consulting
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJllcuqrrjoiG9EEidsmEcS14Acia7GuZ5SU>

JUNE 2023

Wednesday, June 14th (One session only)

Peer Recovery Center of Excellence Community Dialogue – Learning from Each Other: Bringing Movement Elders and Young Leaders Together

In this community dialogue we'll host a roundtable of movement leaders who have played historic roles in the peer movement alongside those who are currently making their mark. We'll discuss the importance of understanding and honoring movement history, intentionally making space for and inviting in new voices, and how we can build coalitions in order to continue pushing the peer movement forward.

- Facilitator: Panel of Subject Matter Experts (TBD)
- Moderator: Tim Saubers
- Register: <https://utexas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMvcu2grDsvEtHlAcptw1LqJY01t0WnrsXW>