

Peerlink National Technical Assistance Center

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Who We Are: Peerlink National Technical Assistance Center is a program of Mental Health America of Oregon, a non-profit organization with more than 30 years of advocacy and training experience. We offer technical assistance to individuals, peer-run programs, and community partners with the goal of improving overall services for people with lived experience of mental health challenges. Peerlink focuses its efforts on providing information, training, and technical assistance that will facilitate peer run programs to take next steps in the evolution of their programs.

Our Mission: Mental Health America of Oregon is an inclusive grass roots mental health organization dedicated to empowering consumer/survivor voices to drive services and policies that foster wellness and full participation in life choices and recovery.

Financial Self-Sufficiency: Many people who use mental health services experience poverty, institutionalization, and financial issues that are often exacerbated by psychiatric distress or periods of hospitalization. Many have lost their right to make decisions about their own money. By offering information and support, the goals of increased self-confidence, greater independence, and establishing or re-establishing personal power over finances can be achieved. Focus areas include:

- Peer-delivered financial self-sufficiency services
- Financial Literacy
- Poverty and Mental Health
- Savings and Asset Building
- Work Incentives

Employment: Peerlink believes individuals should be supported to develop their own plans to achieve their career goals, that everyone has the right to pursue employment in the field of his or her choosing and that meaningful employment is an important part of mental health recovery. Focus areas include:

- Peer delivered employment services
- Person directed career planning
- Workplace accommodations
- Partnering with community resources
- Career research and resume building

Health and Wellness: We believe that people practice wellness in a variety of ways every day. We want to enhance people's resiliency by providing new tools and strategies. We work to provide culturally sensitive training and technical assistance and resource referrals. Focus areas include:

- Impact of the Affordable Care Act
- Health Education
- Talking to your doctor about medication
- Holistic approaches to recovery

Statewide Capacity Building: Peerlink provides training and technical assistance to build statewide networks of consumer/survivor/peers, strengthen statewide peer-run organizations, and increase the voice and influence of consumer/survivor peers. Peerlink currently works with:

- HOPE of Nevada
- Mental Health America of North Dakota's Consumer Family Network
- Montana's Peer Network