

The Utilization and Role of Peers in HIV Interdisciplinary Teams

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Consultation Meeting Proceedings

October 2009

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration
HIV/AIDS Bureau

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Reviews

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CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 30 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.1in. On February 23, 2009, a consultation meeting was held to examine the use of peers in HIV interdisciplinary care settings. The meeting was convened by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HIVAIDS Bureau (HAB). Participants included HRSA representatives, Ryan White HIVAIDS Program grantees, researchers, technical assistance providers, health care professionals, program managers and HIV positive peers. Participants heard about the ways in which peers were being used in the fields of HIV, cancer and diabetes to facilitate access to care, treatment and health-related services. The purpose of the meeting, explained Steven Young, HABs Director of Training and Technical Assistance, was to gain greater insight into the benefits and challenges of having peers on health care teams, to identify the major components of an ideal peer program, and to make recommendations regarding ways in which peer interventions could be funded and sustained within HIV systems of care. Young explained that in the Ryan White HIVAIDS Program, peers are HIV positive individuals who share identifying characteristics with individuals or population groups receiving care or services. Peers and clients share similar experiences and challenges related to class, race, age, gender, language, culture and recovery from substance abuse andor trauma. These common characteristics often provide peers with deep insight into the feelings and behaviors of clients, and help them forge both personal credibility and trusting relationship with clients. In the field, said Young, peers are also called coaches, community health workers and patient navigators, among other titles. HABs particular interest is in examining the role of peers on interdisciplinary health care teams, whose focus in the Ryan White HIVAIDS Program is to...



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