



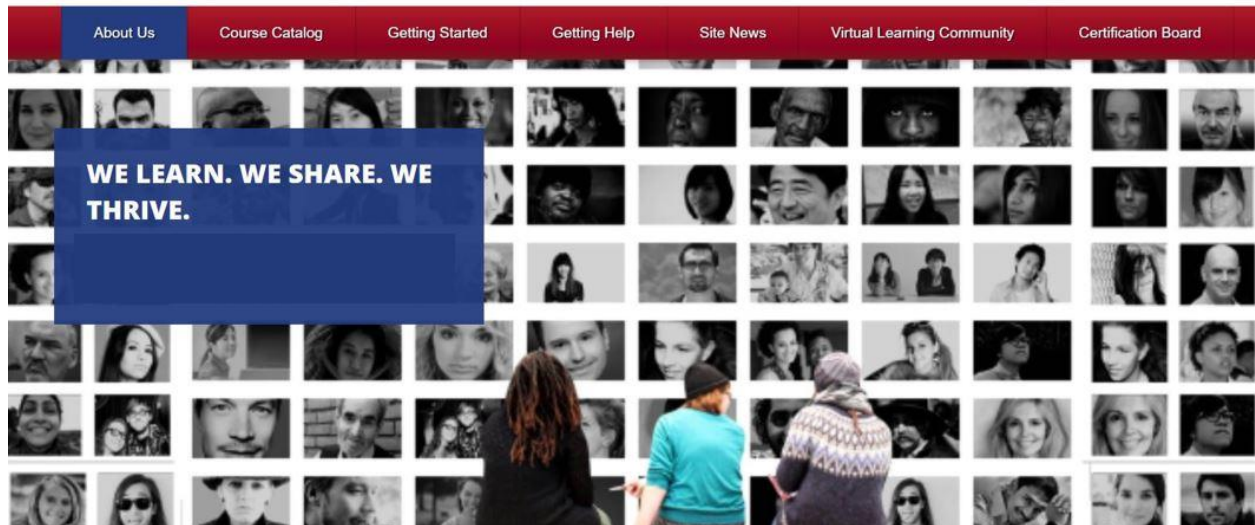
ACADEMY OF PEER SERVICES

We Learn. We Share. We Thrive.

Summer Session 2021 COURSE CATALOG



Log in



2021 Calendar

Term 1: 1/4/21 – 3/29/21

Term 2: 5/3/21 – 7/26/21

Summer Session: 7/28/20 - 9/2/21

Term 3: 9/3/21 – 11/29/21

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ABOUT THE ACADEMY OF PEER SERVICES

The Academy of Peer Services (APS) is an online training, testing, and tracking platform for the peer support workforce in New York State. APS courses are free of charge and open to anyone with an interest in learning about peer support and peer-delivered services. To learn more about APS, [visit this link](#).

SUMMER SESSION CATALOG

This Summer Session catalog lists continuing education courses (NYPSCB-approved) through the Academy of Peer Services. During the break between official terms, the Core and Elective courses are closed for routine updates and maintenance and will reopen at the start of the next term.

The APS calendar is listed on the website and the cover of this catalog.

Summer Session courses are listed in alphabetical order by category. The categories are highlighted in the table of contents and individual courses can be accessed by clicking on the course title or corresponding page number in the table of contents. There is a brief description at the beginning of each category of the types of courses listed there.

COURSE CATEGORIES

This section lists the different types of courses that are offered through APS during regular operation, with a link to the previous term catalog to view the full range of offerings.

Core Courses

Not available until the start of Term 3 on September 3, 2021.

APS Core courses provide foundational knowledge about peer support services for mental health programs in New York State. Completion of all 13 of the core courses is the required *first step* toward the NY-CPS peer specialist certification in New York. Additional requirements are defined in the application to become a New York Certified Peer Specialist.

To learn more, visit the [New York Peer Specialist Certification Board](#) website for an application with all of the details about certification requirements. To view descriptions of the 13 Core courses in a previous course catalog, [click here](#).

About Addiction Recovery Peer Support

APS Core courses do not qualify for the initial training for the Certified Addiction Recovery Coach (CARC) or Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA). These are

separate certifications approved by the New York Certification Board, which is managed by *Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State (ASAP)*. To learn more, visit the NYCB [website](#).

Elective Courses

Not available until the start of Term 3 on September 3, 2021.

Elective courses qualify for credit toward recertification or renewal of the New York State Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) program. If you are taking the courses for a different type of program or work in a different state, be sure to check with your certification authority to determine whether APS Elective courses qualify for credit in your program and/or state. To view the Elective courses in the previous course catalog, [click here](#).

Supervision Track Courses

Not available until the start of Term 3 on September 3, 2021.

These online courses were developed to help supervisors of peer specialists to better understand the philosophy and practice of peer support. Peers who have been promoted to the role of supervisor can also gain knowledge and resources to improve their supervision from these courses. Whether you are new to supervision or a seasoned supervisor who is new to working with the peer support workforce, there is something here for you! To view the Supervision Track courses in the previous course catalog, [click here](#).

APS CE (Continuing Education)

Available now.

This category of courses is based on recorded webinars to offer the most current information and updates in the field. Introduced during the COVID pandemic this category of courses remains open, even during the term breaks to provide additional opportunities to earn continuing education credit. The New York Peer Specialist Certification Board (NYPSCB) granted approval for the APS team to convert recordings of workshops and webinars into short credit bearing online courses. APS CE courses follow the same high standards of instructional design as all other Academy courses, allowing you to earn a certificate as with all other courses by completing the content, post-test, and course evaluation.

An 80% or higher score is required on the post-test and course evaluation feedback will be shared with the presenter/s for the program.

Development (Non-Credit)

Available now.

These learning opportunities are provided to increase your opportunities for personal development. There are no prerequisites, no tests, and no certificates of completion. But they will enrich your understanding of all of these topics.

LISTING OF APS CE COURSES

An Introduction to the Peer Model and Peer Services - Series

Courses in this series provide a basic introduction to peer support services including the values, practices, and the ways in which peer support and recovery benefit not only people who are being supported, but also co-workers, the organization and the peer support workers themselves.

An Introduction to the Peer Model Part 1: Peer Values and Practices

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

The purpose of this course is to describe the “Peer Model” by providing an overview of peer support values and practices. Part of a Rutgers University Dept. of Psychiatric Rehabilitation training for Northwest Essex Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). Presented by Rita Cronise, Martha Barbone, and Lori Ashcraft. Broadcast on March 5, 2021.

An Introduction to the Peer Model Part 2: Power of Peer Support

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

In this course, you will explore the nature of the “Peer Model” including benefits, challenges, and strategies that peer support providers use to combat burnout. Part of a Rutgers University Dept. of Psychiatric Rehabilitation training for Northwest Essex Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). Presented by Rita Cronise, Martha Barbone, and Lori Ashcraft. Broadcast on March 5, 2021.

Complicated Grief and Moral Injury Series

Complicated Grief and Moral Injury: Alleviating Moral Suffering

SEAT TIME: 2 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

In this presentation, we explore the varied manifestations that generate moral injury (often applied to frontline professionals), moral distress (usually used with healthcare professionals), and soul injury (often described in police or military combatants and referring to losses that are not mourned and guilt and shame that is associated with the loss). All of these situations arise from inner conflicts that arise from feelings that one's professional practice does not follow standards of professional practice or ethical principles. Special attention is given to moral suffering in the current pandemic. In the presentation, we identify factors responsible for moral suffering as well as strategies for self-help as well as interventive strategies for clients designed to ease moral suffering. Northeast and Caribbean Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC). Presenter Kenneth J. Doka. Broadcast on April 13, 2021.

Complicated Grief and Moral Injury: Moral Identity and Injury

SEAT TIME: 2 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This presentation will offer prevailing definitions of moral injury, both clinical and spiritual; discuss its relationship to trauma, such as PTSD; describe factors such as various religious and cultural meaning systems, professions, and life circumstances that impact understandings and experiences of it; identify emotions and behaviors that indicate moral suffering; and suggest various strategies that can contribute to healing. Northeast and Caribbean Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC). Presenter Dr. Rita Brock. Broadcast on April 20, 2021.

Complicated Grief and Moral Injury: When Grief Becomes Complicated

SEAT TIME: 2 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

In this presentation, we describe varied forms of complicated grief, contrasting them with manifestations of typical grief - and noting factors that make individuals at-risk for complications in the grieving process. We also describe varied evidence-based interventive strategies that have been used with individuals struggling with complicated grief. Finally, we note the ways complicated grief is acknowledged within the DSM-5 and the new diagnosis for Prolonged Grief Disorder that will be evident in the DSM-5-TR. Northeast and Caribbean Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC). Presenter Kenneth J. Doka. Broadcast on April 6, 2021.

Peer Workforce Integration Series

In the summer of 2019, the Academy of Peer Services hosted the start of what would become a five-part webinar series beginning with the launch of the Needs-Based Organizational Readiness Toolkit and continuing in the spring and summer of 2020 with four-sessions on Action Planning and Implementation to help organizations integrate peer support services in their workforce. The series draws on research and tools developed by the NYC Peer and Community Health Worker Workforce Consortium. While the tools were developed in New York City, they are widely available, and the guidance can be applied to the inclusion of peers in the workforce anywhere. The full series provides an overview of the guide and offers tips in making the transition from assessing organizational needs to collaboratively addressing identified areas for development or improvement.

Peer Workforce Integration: An Introduction to a needs-based toolkit to advance organizational readiness

SEAT TIME: 1.0 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course introduces the Needs-Based Self-Assessment and Toolkit to Advance Organizational Readiness for peer support services. The course provides the evidence about the range of organizational needs that led to the creation of the customized toolkit based on an organizational readiness self-assessment, which is the first step toward action planning and implementation as described in the rest of this series. Presenter: Aviva Cohen, Coordinator for the NYC Peer and Community Health Worker Workforce Consortium. Broadcast on July 26, 2019.

Peer Workforce Integration Session 1: Getting the Conversation Started

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This session introduces key concepts of implementation, organizational readiness for change, collective efficacy, and commitment to change. Aviva Cohen, Consortium Coordinator presents resources and tools that can guide this process and discusses the critical role of collaboration in producing outcomes and reaching organizational goals. She is joined by Leila Clark, NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH), Office of Consumer Affairs, Regional Advocacy Specialist, and Curtis Dann-Messier, *the new Director of the Consortium*. Broadcast on May 20, 2020.

Peer Workforce Integration Session 2: Building a Plan

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

In this session, Aviva Cohen presents strategies for collaborative planning efforts, including ways of increasing the comfort and engagement of those who join in the organization's planning process. It emphasizes a strengths-based approach and ways in which an organization-specific action plan can be inclusive of those who are impacted by the plan while including specific, measurable goals to meet within an agreed upon time frame. Broadcast on May 27, 2020.

Peer Workforce Integration Session 3: Keeping the Action Active

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This session focuses on strategies to address barriers related to engagement of employees and the sustainability of efforts over time. Curtis Dann-Messier and Aviva Cohen discuss ways to re-evaluate and address needs that shift over time and offer organizational and communication strategies to support sustained engagement. They are joined by Ivanna Bond, Chair of the New York City Peer Workforce Coalition and former Coalition Executive Director, Helen (Skip) Skipper. Broadcast on June 3, 2020.

Peer Workforce Integration Session 4: Evaluating the Implementation

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This session discusses methods for evaluating progress towards organizational goals by applying concepts of Continuous Quality Improvement in the implementation process. It defines and differentiates between measurement of implementation processes and measurement of implementation outcomes. Presenters: Curtis Dann-Messier, Director of the Consortium, Jeanette Toledo, Helen Skipper, Todd French, Gita Enders, and Ivanna Bond. Broadcast on June 10, 2020.

Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis Series

The courses in this series are based on a six-part series of webinars by the New York State Office of Mental Health moderated by Matthew Canuteson, Diversity & Inclusion Office, Director of the Bureau of Cultural Competence, NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH).]

Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis: Becoming an Anti-Racist Organization

SEAT TIME: 1.75 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course discusses the results of a racial equity survey conducted with racism webinar series participants in 2020. Several health- and human services-related organizations discuss their anti-racist strategies, challenges, and lessons learned. Office of Mental Health and New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene. Presenters: Ann Marie T. Sullivan, Matthew Canuteson, Dana E. Crawford, and Myla Harrison. Broadcast on October 28, 2020.

Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis: Creating A Culture of Bold Change

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course encourages participants to recognize racial inequities in mental health outcomes and access to services. We advocate having potentially uncomfortable conversations about racism & how it impacts the mental health of BIPOC (Black and Indigenous People of Color). We also hope people will recognize that the time is now to take action to uproot racism and there is an urgent need for racial equity & anti-racist work in the field of mental health. Office of Mental Health. Presenter Matthew Canuteson. Broadcast on August 26, 2020.

Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis: Impact of Structural Racism on Children and Families

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course explores intergenerational trauma and its effects on children and families. Strategies for ending intergenerational and racial trauma are discussed, as well as methods for reducing bias, prejudice, and racism. Office of Mental Health and New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene. Presenters: Sharon Content, Dana E. Crawford, Habeebah Rasheed Grimes, Fatima Kadik, Sara I. Taylor. Broadcast on December 2, 2020.

Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis: Leading Anti-Racist Change at Your Workplace

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

Using data from attendee survey responses, this session engaged participants in a dynamic conversation on specific challenges participants face in implementing an anti-racist culture at their workplace. This session provided an overview of key

takeaways discussed in previous series sessions and focused on what's needed to advance an anti-racist work culture. Key Takeaways: Attendees will have a deeper understanding of the work needed to foster an anti-racist culture; thus, feeling motivated and equipped to move forward with action steps to implement anti-racist work. New York State Office of Mental Health and New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene. Presenters: Ann Marie T. Sullivan, Matthew Canuteson, Dana E. Crawford, Myla Harrison. Broadcast on February 3, 2021.

Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis: LGBTQIA+ Community and Intersectionality

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This webinar-based CE course discusses the intersectionality of race and LGBTQIA+ identities. Description: Being Present - Who Do We Meet? A deeper look and dialogue about racial inequity and systemic racism through the lens of intersectionality. This webinar is designed to discover the intersectionality of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in the LGBTQIA+ community dealing with the multifaceted challenges of the "isms". In the current climate, understanding how to correct these maladaptations demands re-education, refamiliarization with a "truer" historical representation, and cultural awareness. Drawing on their experiences, panelists will raise and discuss identity constructs and how these impact their interactions and lives. Moderator: Antoine Craigwell, founder and president/CEO of DBGM. New York State Office of Mental Health and New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene. Presenters: Antoine B. Craigwell, Kevin Nathaniel, Pratima Kushridevi Doobay, Adjoa Osei, Yash Bhambhani. Broadcast on January 6, 2021.

Racism: A Public Mental Health Crisis: Racism In Mental Health in NYC

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course discusses historical racism in mental health, the interactions between racial and health inequities, and methods by which DOHMH is eliminating racism in their organization. New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene. Presenters: Myla Harrison, Nannette Blaize, Darren Hoke, Nicole Palumbo, and Pamela Clipper. Broadcast on September 30, 2020.

Strategies for Behavioral Health Equity Series

Courses in this series describe disparities in behavioral health care, the factors that create these disparities, and the things that organizations and individuals, including peer support workers, can do to increase equity.

Strategies for Behavioral Health Equity - Strategic Planning: Implementing the CLAS Standards to Reduce Disparities in Behavioral Health Organizations

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course discusses methods of implementing the CLAS Standards in behavioral health organizations and why this is important. Office of Mental Health. Presenter, Matthew Canuteson. Broadcast on July 28, 2020.

Strategies for Behavioral Health Equity – Introduction to Behavioral Health Equity

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

The purpose of this course is to introduce learners to the concept of behavioral health equity, its importance, and methods for increasing it in any organization. Includes an overview of the National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards. Office of Mental Health. Presenter, Matthew Canuteson. Broadcast in December, 2019.

Strategies for Behavioral Health Equity – Practices/Approaches for Continuous Quality Improvement to Reduce Disparities for Marginalized Populations

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course explores the use of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) as a tool for reducing health disparities in marginalized populations. Office of Mental Health. Presenter, Matthew Canuteson. Broadcast on July 28, 2020.

Strategies for Behavioral Health Equity – The Role Organizational Self-Assessment Plays in Reducing Disparities in Behavioral Health Organizations

SEAT TIME: 0.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course discusses self-assessment criteria that help organizations decrease health inequities by adhering to the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS). Office of Mental Health. Presenter, Matthew Canuteson. Broadcast on February 18, 2020.

Supervision During COVID Series

Courses in this series were offered by the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS) and the Center for Practice Innovations (CPI) during the initial stages of the COVID stay-at-home orders and provided strategies for remote supervision.

Supervising from Home – Part 1

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This webinar discusses challenges to remote supervision, strategies in remote supervision, and techniques to manage work output and productivity. The presenter explains elements of supervision. NYAPRS and CPI. Presenters: Ruth Colón-Wagner, Paul Margolies, and Helle Thorning. Original broadcast: May 1, 2020.

Supervising from Home – Part 2

SEAT TIME: 1.0 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

After an opening discussion about continued challenges to remote supervision faced during COVID-19, the presenters discuss difficult conversations. They elaborate on the steps necessary for successful outcomes when facing difficult conversations with supervisees, e. g., meeting preparation, interpersonal communication, and arriving at a corrective action plan. The transactional analysis approach to effective conversations is explained. NYAPRS. Presenters: Ruth Colón-Wagner and Robert Statham. Original broadcast: June 25, 2020.

Supporting Older Adults Series

Before COVID, a team at The Coalition for Behavioral Health Center for Rehabilitation and Recovery had been developing a series on supporting older adults. As the COVID stay at home orders hit, and along with the confusion, isolation, and fears that older people were experiencing, the series beautifully captured in real time and in real plays some of the challenges and ways in which peer support can address emotional distress in ways that are different from any other supporter or provider. (Series was broadcast March-May 2020.)

Supporting Older Adults Part 1: Honoring Their Strengths

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

At a time when older adults are seen as a “vulnerable population”, this course instead looks at how peer supporters see older adults from an alternative point of view. Our presenters look at the developmental model of wellness and positive aging, what older adults (and any adults) want that may be very different from what providers and others want for them, and how to use shared decision-making and intentional peer support approaches to create equal opportunities for older adults to fully participate in a peer relationship. The program also offers an impromptu glimpse at what an authentic peer support relationship might look like between two older adults during a time of crisis, as well as using the arts as a way of allowing older adults to express themselves and engage in legacy work to share the strengths of their life story. Presenters: Gayle Bluebird, Liz Breier, Clinton Green, Deb Trueheart, Shanti Vani, and Michelle Zechner. Created in partnership with The Coalition for Behavioral Health. Broadcast on March 30, 2020.

Supporting Older Adults Part 2: Life Transitions

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course features a moderated discussion about transitions everyone is facing, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis, with attention to how these transitions are affecting older adults. It begins with a continuation of the ‘real play’ started in Part 1 and continues into a rich discussion on supporting people through transitions. Regardless of the transition, the discussion came back to how peer support helps people to know their lives matter and they are not alone. Presenters: Gayle Bluebird, Celia Brown, Richard Laudor, Deb Trueheart, Shanti Vani, and Michelle Zechner; Moderators: Clinton Green and Liz Breier with The Coalition for Behavioral Health. Broadcast on April 20, 2020.

Supporting Older Adults Part 3: Our Elders Speak

SEAT TIME: 2.0 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This panel presentation and group discussion included some of New York State's strongest advocates and leaders who raised awareness about the way people with psychiatric labels were being treated, helped people to find their own choice and voice, and through years of system change created opportunities for peer support in New York State and beyond. The program focused on their most memorable moments, the accomplishments they felt were most meaningful, and what they would say to advocates of today following in their footsteps in the new world that we now face. The course includes the 90-minute webinar and an addition 30-minute pre-recorded segment on the history and thoughts for the future by Carole Hayes-Collier, founder of the Mental Patients' Liberation Project in Syracuse. Presenters: Gayle Bluebird, Harvey Rosenthal, Peter Ashenden, Angela Cerio, George Ebert, and Carole Hayes-Collier. Moderators: Harvey Rosenthal and Pat Feinberg with The Coalition for Behavioral Health. Broadcast on May 14, 2020.

Talking About Tobacco Series

Courses in this section are part of an ongoing series to encourage those providing peer support services to engage people in conversations about tobacco use. These conversations can be especially effective if the peer supporter has also had experience with using tobacco and has engaged in a process of reducing or eliminating tobacco as a part of their own wellness strategies. It is not essential for a peer support provider to have stopped using tobacco completely, but the conversation and planning around healthier approaches can be lifesaving.

Talking About Tobacco Part 1: A New Conversation About Tobacco Use and Peer Support

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

In this first webinar, we discuss why a peer support-oriented discussion is so important and the need for those with tobacco use experience to step forward as champions for themselves and others. We describe how people with mental health conditions, people of color, and people in other marginalized communities have been targeted by the tobacco industry, marketers, and retailers, and the disparities that exist in reaching these communities with public health programs related to tobacco use. Presenters include personal stories related to their own tobacco use, some common misconceptions about tobacco, vaping, and nicotine and ways in which peer support can offer a nonjudgmental space for talking about and exploring changes related to tobacco use. Academy of Peer Services Virtual Learning

Community Faces and Places of Peer Support Series. Presenters: Amanda Saake, Susan Friedlander, LaVerne Daisy Miller, Regina Shoen, and Gina Calhoun. Moderated by Rita Cronise. Broadcast on February 18, 2021.

Talking About Tobacco Part 2: An Orientation to WRAP®

SEAT TIME: 1.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

In this second webinar in the Talking About Tobacco series, presenters Gina Calhoun, Chacku Mathai, and Rita Cronise provide an orientation to the Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP®) and discuss how WRAP® can be used for exploring options for wellness, including the use of tobacco and the impacts that use might have on one's life. The presenters will share elements of their own stories related to tobacco use, and audience members will be able to contribute their own ideas about wellness tools and action plans throughout the orientation to WRAP®. Academy of Peer Services Virtual Learning Community Faces and Places of Peer Support Series. Presenters: Gina Calhoun, Chacku Mathai, and Rita Cronise. Broadcast on March 18, 2021.

Other Continuing Education Courses

Courses in this section were either offered as single webinars (not part of a series) or combined into a single CE course from a webinar series or conference workshop.

Building Financial Hope: Guidance for SSA Recipients, Providers, and Supporters

SEAT TIME: 2.0 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This program provides guidance for SSA recipients, providers, and supporters as they learn about the financial impact of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, explore the connection between economic recession and its psychological impact, and the ways in which peers and supporters can build hope in uncertain times. Broadcast in two separate webinars hosted by NYAPRS, Len Statham. Presenters were Ray Cebula III, J.D - K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan Employment and Disability Institute ILR School, Cornell University, Oscar Jimenez-Solomon, Lic. Soc., MPH, Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence and Senior Research Staff Associate in the Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center, and Jessica Brooks, Assistant Director for Financial Counseling and Coaching Programs for the NYC Office of Financial Empowerment. Broadcast on April 23 and May 7, 2020.

Justice Peers in NYC! A Community Meeting

SEAT TIME: 1.0 HOUR | PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course covers a 2020 community meeting to begin a conversation about moving forward with the work of integrating peers into the justice system in New York City. The goal was to gather input from the community to help guide the justice peer initiative and to see who is interested in joining the working group. The meeting was hosted by the NYC Peer and Community Health Worker Workforce Consortium, with an overview by Carlton Whitmore and presentations by Curtis Dann-Messier, Meg Egan, Executive Director of the NYC Board of Corrections, Brenda Dann-Messier, Senior Advisor for Education and Strategy, Helen (Skip) Skipper and Frank Barretto from the NYC Criminal Justice Agency, Jeanette Toledo from the NYC Peer Workforce Coalition, Garrett Smith from the Office of Mental Health, Ann-Marie Louison From CASES, and LaVerne Miller, national consultant on Justice Training. Five breakout sessions were held. You will hear facilitator experts discuss their involvement in the initiative and introduce the purpose of each session. Broadcast October 27, 2020.

The Trauma of it All: How Race, Oppression, and COVID-19 Intersect

SEAT TIME: 2.5 HOURS | PREREQUISITES: NONE

The goal of this course is to discuss the interactions among race, oppression, and COVID-19, and how they affect the peer support. We discuss trauma and self-care strategies, and how to encourage self-care in those we serve. We also talk about how people from minority groups are less likely to be tested and treated appropriately for COVID-19. Viewers are encouraged to consider how they can foster justice in their role as peer supporters. Training provided through The Coalition for Behavioral Health, The Center for Rehabilitation and Recovery. Presenter: Clinton Green. Broadcast on June 15, 2020.

DEVELOPMENT TRACK (NON-CREDIT)

These non-credit learning opportunities are provided to increase your knowledge and opportunities for personal development. There are no prerequisites, no tests, and no certificates of completion. But they will enrich your understanding of all of these topics.

The Peer Specialist Certification Process in New York State

SEAT TIME: 1 HOUR | No prerequisites, no posttest, no certificate

This module explores the history behind the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board and the overall certification process. It reviews the national landscape when

the peer certification process was formed. The module outlines the certification process, including standards and requirements for certification. It explains the relationship between the Academy of Peer Services (APS) and the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board (NYPSCB), examines the requirements for each level of certification--the NYCPS and NYCPS-Provisional, and discusses the basics of the Renewal and Upgrade Process.

Making a Success of Online Learning

SEAT TIME: 5 HOURS | No prerequisites, no post-test, no certificate

This module will explore current trends in online education, the ways in which the Academy of Peer Services (APS) designs courses to help peer support specialists succeed, and strategies for overcoming common online learning challenges. A special COVID-19 section addresses the potential online learning challenges as a result of the pandemic. Learning is like traveling down a road that is sometimes winding and difficult, and at other times smooth and carefree. APS is your partner on your lifelong learning journey.

Tips for Facilitating Online Peer Support Groups

SEAT TIME: 30 MINUTES | No prerequisites, no post-test, no certificate

This “best practice” guide was developed by a group of facilitators attending the Academy of Peer Services Virtual Learning Community networking meetings who recognized that there was a lot of technical information for holding meetings online, but not a lot of useful information (at the start of the outbreak) about how to hold support groups online. The guide continues to be updated as new tips are shared and lessons learned.

To access, go to: <https://aps-community.org/tips-for-facilitating-online-groups>.

COMPUTER BASICS (GCF GLOBAL)

Do you need to learn computer skills or get a refresher? Or are you working with people who are just getting started with computer skills? Free tutorials and videos are available through [Goodwill Community Foundation Global \(GCFGlobal\)](#).

- [Computer Basics](#) | [Videos](#)
- [Internet Basics](#) | [Videos](#)
- [Internet Safety](#) | [Videos](#)
- [Email Basics](#) | [Videos](#)
- [Online Communication](#)

These user-friendly lessons and videos can be used for self-study or used in combination with the free Teacher’s Guide for working with peers on developing fundamental computer skills.

The Technology Teacher’s Guide is a free lesson plan for using the tutorials with different audiences. To access:

<https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/gcfteacherguides/technology/1/>

If you sign up for an account with GCFGlobal, you (or the people you are working with) can receive a certificate for each tutorial completed and this can be used to demonstrate to employers and other programs knowledge of these core skills. **These certificates will also be accepted for CE Credit through APS using the Request Credit feature.**

To learn more about GCFGlobal, visit: <https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en>

CENTER FOR PRACTICE INNOVATIONS

The Academy of Peer Services (APS) and the Center for Practice Innovations at Columbia Psychiatry, New York State Psychiatric Institute (CPI) strengthen their collaboration to offer inter-professional training and education to the Behavioral Health workforces! APS and CPI share the mission to offer a wide array of training to increase the competencies of NYS behavioral health workers.

View an announcement about the collaboration [here](#).

The Center for Practice Innovations (CPI) supports the New York State Office of Mental Health’s mission to promote the widespread availability of evidence-based practices to improve mental health services, ensure accountability, and promote recovery-oriented outcomes for consumers and families. The CPI serves as a key resource to OMH by spreading those practices identified by OMH as most critical to accomplish OMH’s system-transformation initiatives.

View a catalog of CPI courses curated for APS learners [here](#). | Join the CPI News Brief [here](#).

ADDICTION RECOVERY SUPPORT

Various courses offered through the Academy of Peer Services may be approved for continuing education (renewal hours only) for the Certified Addiction Recovery Coach (CARC) and Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA) certifications by the New York Certification Board, which is managed by *Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State (ASAP)*.

The ASAP Certification Board posts a list of training approved for continuing education on their website. To learn more, visit the NYCB [website](#).

YOUTH PEER ADVOCATE TRAINING

Youth Power offers online courses that qualify toward the Youth Peer Advocate (YPA) Credential, which is currently recognized in New York and available through Families Together in New York State. A Youth Peer Advocate is someone 18-30 years old who self-identifies as a person who has first-hand experience with social, emotional, medical, developmental, substance use, and/or behavioral challenges.

To learn more, visit: <https://www.ftnys.org/yp-ypa-training/>

APS VIRTUAL LEARNING COMMUNITY



The Virtual Learning Community is a project of the Academy of Peer Services and offers a clearinghouse of information and announcements for the peer support workforce in New York State (and beyond) to connect, communicate, and collaborate!

Visit the Virtual Learning Community website resources to enhance your knowledge and opportunities for career and personal development: <https://aps-community.org/>

To sign up for the free Virtual Learning Community email list, [visit this link](#).

USER SUPPORT

Our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page provides an orientation to courses we offer. Many of the questions that have been answered by our team through the years are included in the FAQ, so it is the first place to check before contacting us.

To access the FAQ, [visit this link](#).



Maryam, APS User Support Specialist
(send email with your phone number)

For assistance with questions about the APS system or courses not covered in the FAQ, send email with your question or concern to:
academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com

CERTIFICATION BOARD

For questions regarding certification, contact the NY Peer Specialist Certification Board.



The New York Peer Specialist Certification Board (NYPSCB) is a separate organization from APS that oversees the standards, the applications, and the approval process for certification of peer specialists in mental health programs.

For assistance with the NYCPS or NYCPS-P certification or renewal process, visit the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board website: <http://nypeerspecialist.org>