Recovery Coaches in Opioid Use Disorder Care
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GOAL AND APPROACH

Literature Review
- Identified 12 studies and 2 meta-analyses
- Studies report a small to moderate positive effect in using Recovery Coaches in OUD care
- Limitations:
  - Some studies examined use of Recovery Coaches in OUD care in contact of larger interventions
  - Difficult to quantify effects of Recovery Coach services above and beyond other services

Setting and Funding Sources
- Hospitals & emergency departments
- Police departments, prisons, and corrections
- Community organization, clinics, and treatment centers

Scope of Services
- Engage individuals with substance use disorder through shared experience and development of authentic peer-to-peer relationships
- Help individuals develop their own recovery plan and motivate them in their recovery
- Connect individuals to ongoing recovery services such as treatment in community-based resources
- Provide information on telephonic crisis support

Keys to Success
- Building trust and rapport with individuals
- Supporting multiple pathways to recovery through self-determination
- Prioritizing self-care for Recovery Coaches

Setting for Recovery Coaches
- Standards and funding sources

Policy Recommendations
1. Prioritize broad experience for Recovery Coaches
2. Incorporate Recovery Coach self-care into organizational structure
3. Support Recovery Coach workforce development
4. Provide financial support for Recovery Coach services with flexibility to align payment with services to meet client needs
5. Establish a state-sponsored certification process for Recovery Coaches
6. Establish standardized data collection tools and quality measures to support evaluation of the effectiveness of Recovery Coach services

Recovery Coach Certification Requirements

Certification available in 48 states + DC

Payment Methods
- State Medicaid covers some peer services
- Some include Recovery Coaches, some only cover peer for mental health
- Many authorize payment for Recovery Coach services as part of a bundled (e.g., Health Home or global) payment
- Some private payers employ Recovery Coaches directly
- Recovery coaches were not paid as a provider or covered service among private insurance companies

For more information:
Please visit RIZE’s website for a full copy of the report, which includes the following:
- Literature review
- Description of certification requirements by state
- Descriptions of the 12 programs interviewed
- Benefit data from 10 programs interviewed

Sample job descriptions

RESEARCHER’S NOTICE

References