



## Via Hope Peer Support Advisory Committee *Committee Charter*

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide advice and guidance to Via Hope staff on issues including but not limited to:

- Expansion of programming to meet emerging needs of the peer workforce;
- Development of additional endorsement trainings for mental health and substance use peer specialists;
- Development and implementation of Via Hope Peer Professional Development Institute;
- Informing Via Hope staff of potential TA needs for organizations that employ peer providers
- Other program development activities as identified.

### **Composition**

The Committee shall have up to fifteen (15) members. Members must be currently employed or volunteering in at least a half time position as a mental health or substance use peer specialist and must have a minimum of one year's experience in a half time position as a Via Hope CPS, a Peer Recovery Support Specialist (PRS), or a Mental Health Peer Specialist (MHPS) or Recovery Support Peer Specialist (RSPS), the Medicaid-eligible Certifications. This employment may be in a peer-operated mental health or substance use organization, community mental health center, state hospital, other private mental health provider, Veterans' organization, or similar organization. If an individual who is currently serving on the Advisory Committee experiences a change in job status where they are not working or volunteering at least half time (20 hours per week), Via Hope will provide a six-month "grace period" where the Committee member may remain on the Advisory Committee while they secure a new position where they are working or volunteering at least half time. If a Committee member fails to secure an eligible half time position within the six month grace period, they will be asked to resign from the Advisory Committee.

The Committee shall have a diverse membership. Factors to be considered include ethnicity, age, geographic location, rural or urban location, length of experience, and participation in other Via Hope initiatives (Recovery Institute, training, etc.).

*Via Hope invests in people and organizations who want to re-envision mental health, through workforce development, community building, system transformation, and leadership development.*



The Committee shall select a representative who will also attend quarterly meetings of the Via Hope Recovery Stakeholders Committee.

### **Relationship to Via Hope**

The Committee is an advisory group that makes recommendations to the Director of Via Hope or other designated staff members. It does not have authority to establish policy; however, the Committee's recommendations shall be seriously considered.

### **Nominations**

Individuals nominate themselves for membership and Via Hope staff conduct a competitive application review process. A notice will be sent to the Via Hope mailing list whenever there are one or more vacancies.

### **Term of Service**

Committee members shall be appointed for three year terms. The initial terms shall be staggered so that one half of the members are appointed each year. Members may not miss more than one meeting per year (by neither calling in nor attending in person). A member who fails to attend at least two meetings in-person during each of their two-year terms may be replaced for the remainder of the term.

### **Meetings**

The Committee shall meet in person a minimum of four times per year and may have additional meetings and conference calls as necessary. It is also expected that members will be asked to help develop and review written products in between meetings.

### **Compensation**

Via Hope will reimburse members for travel expenses and evening meals to attend meetings. However, there is no payment for individual's time spent attending meetings. Via Hope will work with employers to encourage them to allow their employees to participate on work time.

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