

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: October 19, 2021

Subject: Changes Regarding Peer Support Services

Summary: Below is an overview of changes impacting Peer Support Services (PSS).

Peer Support Services are provided by Office of Behavioral Health Recognized Peer Support Specialists (**RPSS**), who are individuals with personal lived experience with recovery from behavioral health conditions and successfully navigating the behavioral health services system.

Staff Ratios:

One (1) RPSS to 25 active members.

Supervision:

Supervision must be provided by a Licensed Mental Health Professional (LMHP), who has successfully completed an Office of Behavioral Health approved Peer Recovery Specialist Supervisor Training.

Agency:

Agencies must be licensed by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) per La. R.S. 40:2151 et seq.

Training:

The RPSS employed by the provider agency must successfully complete a comprehensive peer training plan and curriculum that is inclusive of the Core Competencies for Peer Workers, as outlined by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and has been approved by the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH).

Training must provide the RPSS with a basic set of competencies that complies with the Core Competencies of the profession to perform the peer support function. Successful completion requires obtaining the minimum qualifying score, or better, on required knowledge and skill assessments.

Questions: Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

Missed an alert?

You can find a complete listing of provider alerts on the [Provider Newsletters and Updates](#) page of our website.

Where can I find more information on COVID-19?

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana has updated its website to streamline communications and important notifications about COVID-19. Please visit <http://amerihealthcaritasla.com/covid-19> for up-to-date information for both providers and members, including frequently asked questions, and important provider alerts from AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana and the Louisiana Department of Health.