

Discussion: Peer Recovery Specialists Working with Crisis and ES Teams

*A conversation about working with, within, and alongside Crisis and
Emergency Services Programs at Virginia's Community Services Boards*



Peer Specialists Working in/with Crisis Programs

Peer Moderators and Panelists

- Robyn Hantelman
- Becky Graser
- Christine DuBois
- Amber Harris
- Jim Kochany
- Brian McKeown
- Libbie Roberts

What is a “fishbowl”, anyway?

A fishbowl-style presentation allows panelists to sit around a table and interact organically with each other as opposed to in a row facing the audience.

This allows panelists to ask and answer questions in a comfortable, congenial way while offering insights often not shared with audience members.

In short, you get to observe Peer Specialists in our natural environment, not unlike this curious cat.

Just please observe with a spirit of inquiry and with positive intentions.



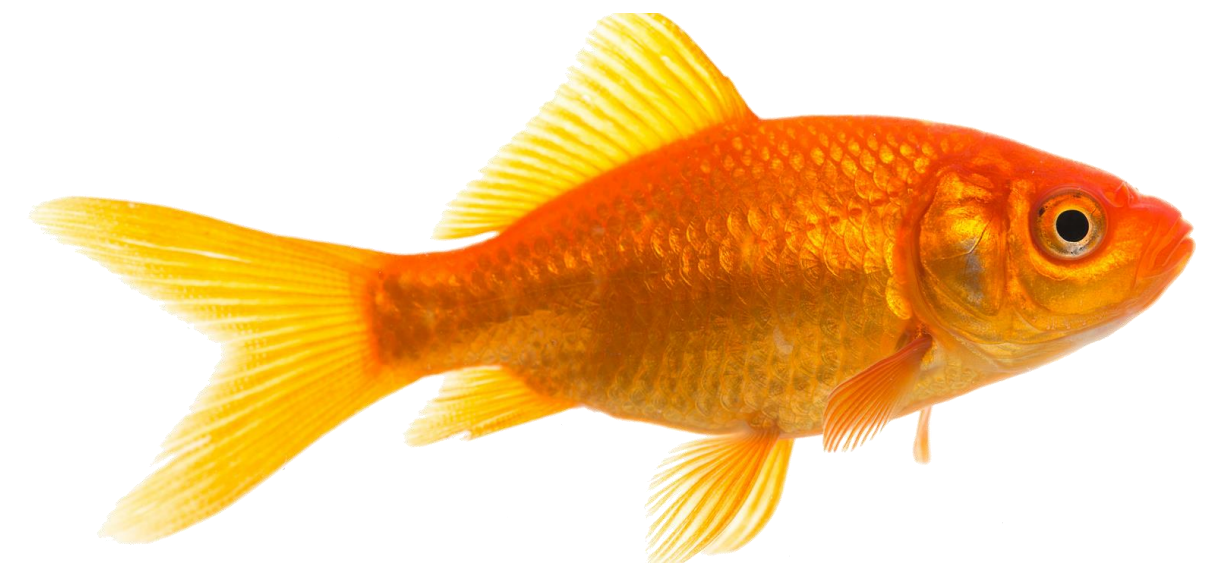


Get to Know Us:

- Name, Role, Org/Agency
- How long in your current role?
- Previous Relevant Experience
- How long have you been a Peer Specialist?
- How are you connecting with CSB Crisis and ES programs and staff at your agency/org?
- Why are you participating in this panel?



If you have **QUESTIONS** of your own for the Peer Panel, feel free to drop them into the fishbowl. We will ask as many as time allows at the end.



Using your own lived experience...
Think back to when you might have
been in “crisis” in your life before
recovery. What did you need? What did
you receive? What helped? What was
not helpful?

Did you or are you helping integrate Peer
Services into Crisis and ES?

What are the biggest challenges to this process?

What are some of the greatest successes you
have had in working with ES? Have there been
any “missed opportunities” for connection,
engagement, etc.?

What are the benefits to Crisis and
Emergency Services' teams to
including Peers? In what ways does
utilizing Peer Support cutting down
on the stress and workload of the ES
team members?

How important are the skills of de-escalation to the average Crisis Peer Specialist working in situations with increased urgency (whether in CSBs or community outreach)?

Speak to intuition as well as formal training and experience needed.

What do you wish all CSB
Crisis/Emergency Services teams
knew about Peer Specialists, Peer
Support, or Recovery in general?

What are some of the
characteristics required to be
an amazing and resilient
“Crisis-Based Peer Recovery
Specialist”?

Discuss the need for “WRAP-AROUND RECOVERY SERVICES”

- Transitional Support
- Basic Needs
- Funding
- a Safety Net

These issues are pervasive and in short supply everywhere, but especially in rural areas.

Where are such programs crucial?

- Emergency rooms
- Primary care offices
- Embedded with LEOs and EMS
- Peer Concierge at the door at CSB’s
- Drop-in, barrier-free, Recovery-focused Peer centers
- Crisis/ES or diversion programs
- Others?

How do Community Inclusion programs influence crisis services, both before intake and after assessment?

What are the benefits of Crisis and ES connecting clients to Peer Specialists in other programs?

What have you learned are the opportunities about increasing understanding between Peers and Clinical/Non-Peer staff, as well as reducing stigma?

Questions from our

Attendees:

The Fishbowl and

Beyond...



Remember, a “TEAM” =
Together
Everyone
Achieves
More!

What We Are All About



"I COULD WALK A MILE
IN YOUR SHOES.
BUT I ALREADY KNOW
THEY'RE JUST AS
UNCOMFORTABLE AS MINE.
LET'S WALK NEXT TO
EACH OTHER INSTEAD"

Lynda Meyers