

Overview of Revised Peer Support Services (PSS) Standards and Youth and Young Adult PSS Implementation

Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
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Discuss the impact of the revised Peer Support Services (PSS) Bulletin as well as:

- Expansion of PSS to youth and young adults
- Assessing local needs
- Key changes
- Licensing and enrollment
- Implementation
- Workforce development
- Continuing education

Expansion of PSS



- Guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in 2015 led to the opportunity for expansion of age limits for Peer Support Services to serve youth under the age of 18.
- Conducted a literature search and examination of PSS practices in other states that offer PSS for youth and young adults.
- A statewide workgroup to develop PSS for youth and young adults was convened October, 2015.

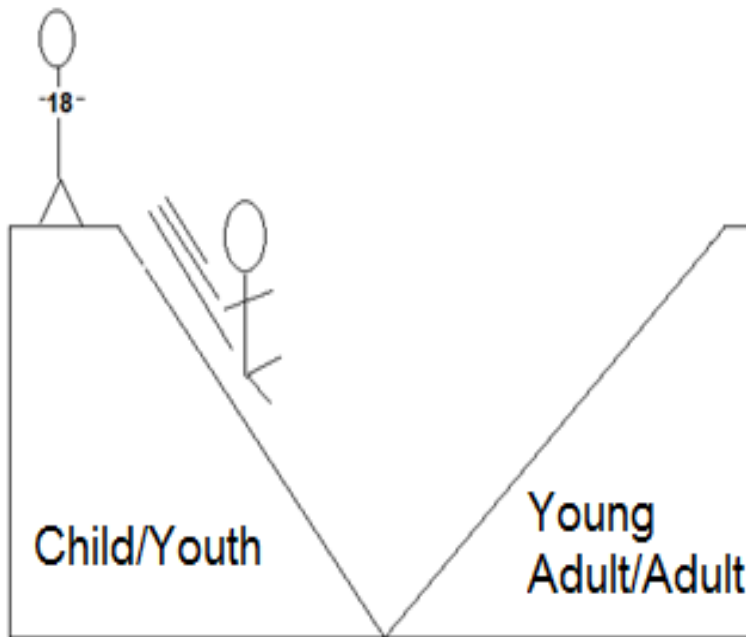
Expansion of PSS



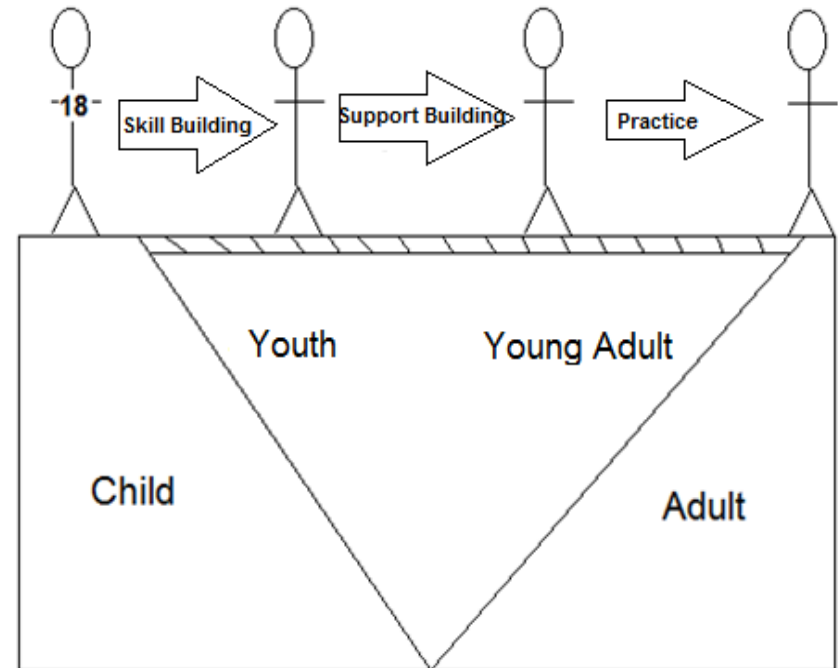
- Recommendations from the workgroup:
 - Revise the Peer Support Services Bulletin
 - Revise the Provider Handbook Pages
 - Pursue Peer Certification with the Pennsylvania Certification Board
 - Develop continuing education training for peers and supervisors of peers working with youth and young adults
- Revised PSS Standards issued December 12, 2016 allow for approved PSS agencies to provide PSS to individuals 14 years of age and older.

Why develop PSS for youth and young adults (YYA)?

Gaps In Our System



Bridging The Gap



Assisting

youth to identify, develop, and use natural supports

Increasing

awareness of community opportunities and resources

Educating

youth about mental health, wellness, recovery and resiliency

Key Changes to PSS Standards



- Definitions – SED (VII-12) and SMI, Youth, Young Adult, Trauma and Trauma Informed Care.
- Enrollment (VII-14): existing PSS agencies must submit an amended SD for approval in order to serve individuals under 18 years of age.
- Service Description (VII-15).
- Staffing: PSS Director (VII-17).

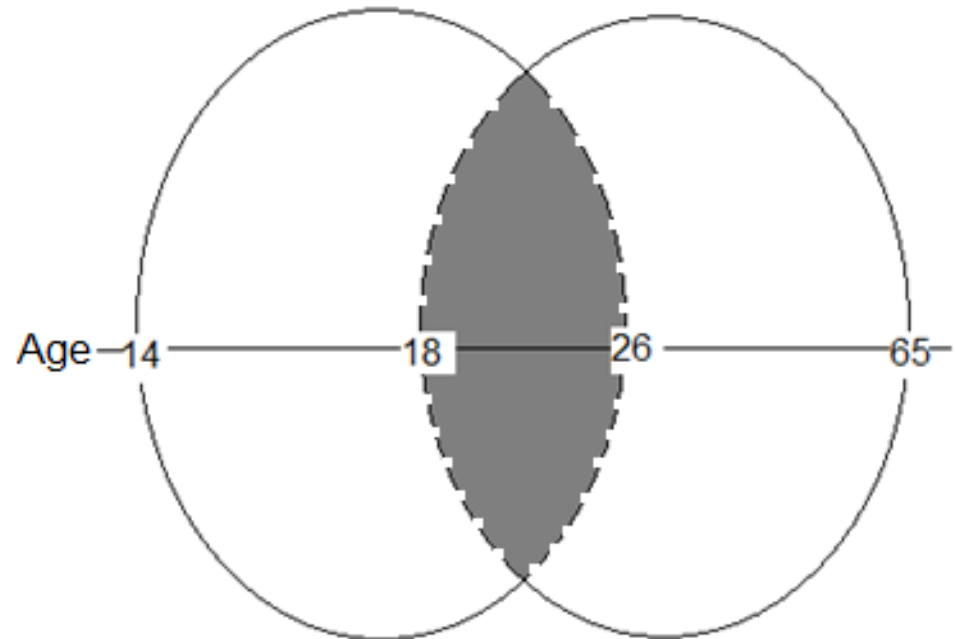
Key Changes to PSS Standards



- Staff Qualifications: MHP (VII-18) is clearly delineated; requirements for Child Abuse Clearances.
- Compensable services (VII-21) replaces Attachment 4 in the previous standards.
- Medical necessity guidelines (VII-23)
 - (1) no longer references Bulletin OMH-94-04 SMI Adult Priority Group - see SMI in definitions
 - (2) youth and young adult criteria added
- A written recommendation for PSS from a LPHA acting within the scope of professional practice is required for all age groups.

Program Design

- Provider opportunity
- Considerations and recommendations:
 - The goal is to design age appropriate services that meet the needs of the youth
 - Provide seamless progression towards resiliency and recovery



PSS Service Delivery

- For school age students, this must be outside of school time. Consider late afternoon, early evening, weekends and time ended involvement during summer months.
- For young adults, this may be days or evenings or a mix.
- Consider available means of transportation.
- Program design and focus.

- Under Bulletin OMHSAS-16-12 Peer Support Services – revised.
- Effective 12/12/2016.
- Facilities will continue to be licensed/approved according to an OMHSAS approved service description.
- YYA requirements will not be applied to any PSS facility that does not have an approved service description to serve youth.
- Revised service description will be acknowledged by approval letter.

Supporting Documents

- Supplemental Outpatient Provider Agreement
- Service Description Checklist
- Peer Support Service On-site Survey Report
- Program Information Form

Enrollment



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- Providers already enrolled do not have to re-enroll.
- For PROMISe enrollment and billing purposes, the license/approval letter will show whether the PSS is approved to provide services for Youth or for Adults, or for both age groups.

Implementation of PSS for YYA



- PSS continues as a Medicaid State Plan service.
- The geo-access HealthChoices requirement (choice of two providers) applies to adult population and youth population separately. Youth PSS capacity will be attained within a reasonable period of time (March 31, 2019).
- Primary Contractors and MCOs need to consider how to meet the requirement.
- PSS for YYA may be offered by current licensed/approved PSS agencies, by new agencies, or both, under an approved service description.

Developing the YYA Workforce



- Build workforce capacity by targeting the 75-hour CPS training to candidates 18-26 years old.
- Two day Youth and Young Adult CPS continuing education curriculum.
- Identify additional training and technical assistance needs to support YYA peer workforce.

Continuing Education



- Developed a 2-day specialized YYA continuing education curriculum.
- OMHSAS partnered with the Institute for Recovery and Community Integration (IRCI) and funded through Healthy Transitions (HT) grant.
- IRCI gathered input for curriculum using World Café focus groups.
 - Five sessions were held across the state.
 - Broad representation including youth and young adults, peers, family members, providers.

Continuing Education



- Draft curriculum reviewed by peers, family members, youth and young adults, psychologists, providers and more.
- Piloted in the Healthy Transition grant counties: Berks, Bucks and Washington.
- Webinar was held to discuss pilot feedback and next steps.

Next Steps



- Offer training and technical assistance to interested agencies.
- Develop training for supervisors of CPS working with youth and young adults.
- Identify additional training needs for CPS working with youth and young adults.
- Consider CPS certification through the Pennsylvania Certification Board.

Bulletin OMHSAS-16-12 link:

<http://www.dhs.pa.gov/publications/bulletinsearch/bulletinselected/index.htm?bn=OMHSAS-16-12&o=N&po=OMHSAS&id=12/12/2016>

Pennsylvania Recovery and Resiliency link:

<http://www.parecovery.org/>

Institute for Recovery and Community Integration link:

<http://www.mhrecovery.org/home>

Child Abuse Clearances and Mandated Reporters link:

<http://keepkidssafe.pa.gov/>



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