

The Dale Association's Peer Specialist Program

What kind of services does the program offer?

- ▶ Job description: “provide and oversee supportive services through consultations and linkages to persons diagnosed with psychiatric disabilities who are living in the community, transitioning from in-patient settings or supportive living situations to independent living.”
- ▶ What does that mean?
 - ▶ Meet with consumers to provide peer support and to assist in identifying and linking them up with services, programs, and recreation in the community. Assist with community linkages such as doctors, self-help groups, churches, pharmacy, volunteer work, school, etc.
- ▶ The goal of the program is to foster independence

What does this look like?

- ▶ Recovery & Rehabilitation
 - ▶ Creation or review of current WRAP and/or safety plan
 - ▶ Connections to self-help groups in the community
 - ▶ Connecting individuals to “warm lines”
 - ▶ Recovery education and coaching for individuals and their family members
- ▶ Physical Health & Wellness
 - ▶ Education on general physical health and wellness
 - ▶ Connections to medical professionals and pharmacies
 - ▶ Accompaniment to medical appointment if anxiety acts as a barrier to receiving services
 - ▶ Facilitating advocacy for participant needs during medical appointments

What does this look like?

▶ Financial

- ▶ Education on budgeting and budgeting tools
- ▶ Connection to financial counseling
- ▶ Assistance with setting up a bank account

▶ Housing

- ▶ Connection to a list of landlords and possible apartments in Niagara County
- ▶ Connection to service providers that assist with finding housing
- ▶ Education on local housing resources

What does this look like?

- ▶ Community Presence & Participation
 - ▶ Assist selecting and utilizing the things that bring a sense of passion, purpose and meaning into his/her life and coaching the person as they identify barriers to engaging in these activities
 - ▶ Assist individuals to help connect to natural supports that enhance the quality and security of life
 - ▶ Assist individuals in setting up a personalized community services directory
- ▶ Self-Help & Empowerment
 - ▶ Assistance advocating for self-directed services
 - ▶ Assistance seeking and obtaining benefits and entitlements

What does this look like?

- ▶ Educational & Employment
 - ▶ Information about education and employment
 - ▶ Connections to educational and employment resources
- ▶ Legal
 - ▶ Connections to legal resources

What does this look like?

- ▶ Spirituality
 - ▶ Connection to local places of worship
- ▶ Other

Eligibility Criteria

- ▶ In order to be eligible for services through The Dale Association's Peer Specialist program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

_____ Age 18 or older

_____ Live in Niagara County

_____ Be diagnosed with or seeking treatment for a mental illness

_____ Be willing to participate in Peer Specialist program services

Referral Process

- ▶ Once a person is determined to be eligible for peer services, a referral form must be completed. It can be completed by the service provider or the person requesting services.
- ▶ Referral forms are available on The Dale's website. They can also be obtained by contacting the Peer Specialist via phone at 433-1937 ext. 205
- ▶ After receiving the referral, the person seeking peer services will be contacted via phone within 5 business days for an initial appointment.

What's on the referral form

- ▶ Most recent psychiatric diagnosis
- ▶ Goal domain: Select at least one of the following

_____ Recovery & Rehabilitation

_____ Self-Help & Empowerment

_____ Physical Health & Wellness

_____ Educational & Employment

_____ Financial

_____ Legal

_____ Housing

_____ Spirituality

_____ Community Presence

_____ Other _____

& Participation

Goal- at least one goal to explain why they are requesting peer services and what they hope to achieve.

- ▶ How they know they will no longer need peer services and what will be different.
- ▶ Info about their history, current service providers, and home life.

Referrals can be faxed to:

Peer Specialist Program

The Dale Association

Fax Number: (716) 433-1961

- ▶ Note: There is a fax cover sheet included with the referral forms.

Referrals can be mailed to:

Peer Specialist Program

The Dale Association

33 Ontario St.

Lockport, NY 14094