

Recovery to Practice Monthly Report

May 2012

National Association of Peer Specialists

The NAPS RTP team completed work on creating first drafts of recovery curriculum modules although it is likely that one additional module covering self-care issues will be developed. At this point, however, all eight modules have been drafted with one internal round of review of each and one external round of review for seven.

Organizing and coordinating input from reviewers is being performed by instructional design consultant Rita Cronise. In June, Rita and Steve will be combining efforts to integrate input.

Having developed an “application” form for pilot sites, Steve has been busy responding to inquiries and receiving completed forms. Due to the length of the curriculum developed by the NAPS RTP team, delivery/implementation issues have been of considerable concern and the focus of discussion this month. It appears that pre-session “homework” to be completed before the sessions begin may be a viable implementation strategy. By covering material from the first module (on basic recovery principles), it appears that participants will be able to come to the first sessions fully prepared.

The NAPS RTP team is monitoring input from certified peer specialist trainers. Some discussion has been initiated as a result of the pilot site application. Some trainers have expressed the view that a 40 hour training is too extensive for many participants and it may be difficult for employers to provide sufficient “release” time for employees. Issues relating to employer and participant responsibilities and the financial condition of most peer specialists have been the subject of much discussion—discussion that will likely continue.

Opportunities for additional curriculum development and trainer training/development are also under consideration. Specifically, opportunities for connections with established trainers at the NAPS annual conference in Philadelphia are likely and the NAPS RTP team will be examining ways to take advantage of those connections.

The NAPS website has been redesigned to accommodate RTP information. Rita continues to make improvements so the site is both user friendly and provides access to a wealth of information important to peer workers and others. The NAPS website is ready to go “live” and will do so when the RTP website is finally approved and goes live as well.

Next month, the NAPS RTP team will be incorporating input into the recovery curriculum and finalizing implementation (including piloting) strategies. Presentations at conferences and other opportunities will be explored.