

No action required

Manatee County Government Administrative Center
Commission Chambers, First Floor
9:00 a.m. - August 7, 2018

August 7, 2018 - Regular Meeting
Agenda Item #32

Subject

Peer 2 Peer: Opioid Peer Coach Program by First Step

Briefings

Briefing Provided Upon Request

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Joshua T. Barnett, Health Care Services Manager
ext 3978

Nick Azzara, Information Outreach Manager

Action Requested

Neighborhood Services Department introduces "Peer 2 Peer," the opioid-focused Peer Coach Pilot program operated by First Step, to the Board of County Commissioners and the public. This introduction is to recognize those who live a life of recovery from past opioid abuse and promote the idea that recovery from opioid addiction is possible. Recognize and thank First Step Peer Coaches for the dedication they each provided throughout the hiring procedures in order to support Manatee County.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

Appropriations Project 5.14

Background Discussion

Legislative funding secured by the Board of County Commissioners in 2017 provides \$500,000 to fund evidence-based Certified Peer Coach services that engages those with opioid use dependency and addiction to navigate recovery resources toward the achievement of recovery from opioid use disorder. This program has successfully hired Peer Coaches, secured a location, completed background clearances, and received training necessary to begin service provision. Engagements and enrollments have already begun within the community, jail, and with social service agencies.

This introduction will serve as part of the quarterly update to the Board of County Commissioners.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

None

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

N/A

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

\$500,000 non-recurring

Attachment: [BOCC 2nd Update Peer Coach.pdf](#)

MEMORANDUM



To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Health Care Services
Neighborhood Services Department
Date: July 24, 2018
Subject: Update on Peer Coach Pilot Project

We are pleased to provide you with a second update on **Manatee County's Opioid-focused Peer Coach Pilot Project**, a result of the \$500,000 secured by this Board in the 2017 Legislative Session. In operation for just two months, this program has already demonstrated successful collaboration and engagement. This Memo is in advance of a more formal introduction to the Peer Coach program and its staff, planned for August 7, 2018.

In the Fall of 2017, First Step was one of four agencies to respond to the competitive request for proposal (RFP) process with Manatee County, to develop this novel program to hire and train professional Peer Coaches with lived recovery experience from past opioid and substance abuse. First Step was selected by a committee in December of 2017 based upon their demonstrated knowledge of an evidence-based approach to recovery-oriented service delivery, their tailored approach to engaging those with opioid use disorders, and their demonstrated capacity to provide community-based services. To receive the allocated funding, the Florida Department of Children and Families directed its local managing entity, the Central Florida Behavioral Health Network (CFBHN) to serve as a funding pass-through, and to contract with Manatee County. This became CFBHN's very first contract with a local county government. CFBHN and the County initially arranged for a performance-based agreement but due to a rigorous background check process and the accompanying backlogs associated with these procedures at the state level, a cost-reimbursement agreement is now in place.

Since February of this year, First Step has accomplished the following:

1. Hired and Trained 6 Peer Coaches, Clinical Supervisory Staff, and an Administrative Assistant
2. Peer Coaches have received the following training
 - a. **Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP)** – evidence-based practice
 - b. **40-hour Peer Certification Training** – evidence-based & sustainability measure
 - c. **Motivational Interviewing** – evidence-based intervention for substance abuse
 - d. **Recovery-Oriented Service Delivery Training**
 - e. **Resiliency Training**
3. Engaged nearly 60 Opioid Users in Community, Correctional and Homeless Settings
4. Engaged community-stakeholders and treatment agencies regarding Peer Coach services
5. Secured office space along with remote capabilities for community-based documentation

First Step is a licensed treatment agency and therefore complies with Florida's background check procedures, prior to the hiring of Peer Coaches. This process has ranged from 7 to 15 weeks. To preserve the integrity of the program's allocated funding, in direct response to the lengthy background clearing procedures, First Step agreed to a 2-month pause in funding for the May and June months. Since February of this year, First Step has received \$147,194.52, preserving more than 70% of remaining appropriated funds to sustain the program now that Peer Coaches are hired, trained and certified. By exchanging service data with CFBHN, demonstrated outcomes are anticipated within the coming months as a direct result of the **Manatee County Opioid-focused Peer Coach Pilot project**.

Sincerely,

Joshua T. Barnett, MHS, MA, ICCDP-Diplomate, Health Care Services Manager

Neighborhood Services
Health and Human Services
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205
Phone number: (941) 749-3030



Recovery Coaching Services

Peer
2
Peer

Helping people find strength and support on their journey of recovery.

A First Step and Manatee County Opioid-Focused Initiative

First Step is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.
Federal ID number is 59-1304472.

RECOVERY COACHING SERVICES INCLUDE

- Face-to-face engagements in all stages of your recovery.
- A better understanding of substance abuse, mental illness, and effects of trauma to develop positive coping skills.
- Help to advocate for yourself and take a positive role in treatment.
- Identification of triggers and how to manage them.
- Free services to anyone who feels dependent on opioids.
- Being in treatment is not required to participate.

YOUR RECOVERY PEER COACH WILL HELP

- Identify your strengths, needs, abilities, and preferences as they relate to your recovery.
- Create your recovery plan and establish goals.
- Develop your crisis plan in the event of use, cravings, or emergency situations.
- Establish a positive network of support.



OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE

- Connection to other community resources and services that enhance your recovery.
- Peer recovery group meetings for additional support.
- Attendance with your Recovery Peer Coach for treatment sessions, meetings and other related activities if requested.





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WHAT IS A RECOVERY PEER COACH?

- A person who can share their own recovery story.
- Someone who understands the obstacles many face on the journey of recovery.
- A direct connection to resources and the recovery community.
- A guide in the fundamentals of sustainable recovery.
- A person who offers a professional and supportive relationship that is relaxed, comfortable, and non-judgmental.

Services are free and do not require a substance abuse diagnosis or insurance to participate.

MEETING WITH A RECOVERY PEER COACH

- Will provide emotional support and promote a sense of belonging.
- Will give you a role model who will offer one-on-one support and shared experiences.
- Will help you find meaning, purpose, and social connections to encourage your recovery.



GOALS OF A RECOVERY PEER COACH

- To help you identify options for recovery and select what might be the best option for success.
- To give you choices and set attainable goals.
- To assist you in identifying and reducing barriers to live a recovery lifestyle.
- To increase your self-confidence and self-determination.



Call today to get connected with your Recovery Peer Coach and to learn more.

Office Address: 837 8th Avenue West, Palmetto, FL 34221 • Phone: (941) 444-7772 • Fax: 941-212-4523 • www.fsos.org