

Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Peer Support Service Evaluation
Focus Group Guide
Service Coordination & Collaboration Groups (SCCs) & Consumer Advisory Board
(CAB)

Confidentiality Statement

The purpose of this evaluation is to learn more about the benefits, challenges and perceived outcomes of peer support services for people living with HIV/AIDS. We plan to assess the various models of peer support identifying effective models as well as exploring ways in which peer support services in Massachusetts can be improved. Information that you provide during the focus group will be kept completely private and used solely for the purpose of this evaluation. Your name will not appear on any of the data collected. The information will not be reported in a way that anyone can tell who you are without your written permission. All the information from this group will be combined with the data from other focus groups with SCCs and the CAB in the state of Massachusetts. Once all the focus groups have been completed evaluators from Boston University will summarize the information obtained and write a final report to be submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Focus Group questions

- 1) What types of activities do you prefer to work with a peer as opposed to other professionals?
What activities do you not comfortable working with a peer ?
- 2) What types of activities are you comfortable sharing in group in settings? Are there times you prefer to work individually with a peer? Can you give examples?
- 3) What are the challenges/reasons to peer led activities in their area?
- 4) What are examples of how peer led activities have helped them personally or their community?
- 5) What do peer leaders accomplish in your agency, in the lives of PLWHA and in their community? What do peer leaders bring that other professionals (case managers) do not?
- 6) What are areas for improving peer support activities?