Medi-Cal Peer Certification Stakeholder Advisory Council

Date: October 18th, 2024 **Time:** 1:00-2:00p
Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87812257014
or **Dial In**: 1-669-444-9171 **Meeting ID:** 878 1225 7014

Participants	
Name	**Name**
Joseph Gray	Orlando Vera
Eva Serrano	
Martha Contreras	

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Roll Call	For Stakeholder members only: Please type your name and county in the chat to indicate your attendance
Housekeeping	• This session is scheduled for 1 hour. (Done early, adjourn early.) • The session is being recorded to facilitate notetaking. The recording and slides will not be posted. • Meeting notes will be available on our website at www.calmhsa.org/peer-certification for your reference. • For the latest information about the Peer Certification program please visit our website: https://www.capeercertification.org/ • No recording or AI transcription services (e.g., Otterbox) allowed. • For those on the telephone who would like to offer a verbal comment: Press "*9" – to raise your hand to be called on Once called on, press "*6" – to unmute and mute • Dedicated Public Comment will be limited to 15 minutes. We kindly ask individuals who share input to be mindful of others and keep comments to a 1-minute maximum to permit others an opportunity to speak. Please save questions for Q&A. • Q & A has been allotted 10 minutes following Public Comment. We kindly ask individuals to keep questions to a 1-minute maximum to permit others an opportunity to speak. • **Note: Q&A changes** – please add questions to Q&A box. Those questions will be answered live to avoid confusion (if we don't get to your question, please feel free to email us) • We ask that all comments and questions be respectful and constructive and that we all respect comments made by others.
Meeting Agreements	• Be kind. • Create a safe space for everyone to engage and participate in as they feel comfortable. • Assume best intent, we all make mistakes, so be understanding. • Model respect and professionalism. • When presenting a problem, include constructive suggestions and recommendations. • Model cultural humility. • Ask for permission to provide personal feedback to each other. • Be considerate of time limits. • Transparency is important: We share all available information. Details in development will be shared once finalized.

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Previous Stakeholder Meeting Recap: July 19th, 2024	• Announced 14 (CE) training providers were approved. • Reminder on Annual Application Cycles • January 1 – 31: Continuing Education (CE) Training (training length varies) • July 1 – 31: Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Training (80 hours) • Announced New Feature in Certification Application for Change Requests • Legal name change & address change • Informed about Peer Support Certification training for Justice-Involved Individuals • More than 200 justice-involved individuals at five correctional facilities! • Described "Prepaid Codes" versus "Scholarships" • Informed Exam retake Fee Waivers are no longer available. • Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist must renew every two (2) years to maintain certification.
Program Updates	**Medi-Cal Peer Certification Exam:** • Peer Certification Exam now available in 10 languages! • Arabic, Chinese, English, Farsi, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese • How to select your language: • On the Pearson Vue portal when you schedule your exam there will be a language menu option. • Verify you see Language on the confirmation screen **Website Updates:** • FAQ added to website main menu https://www.capeercertification.org/general-faqs/ • Chatbot is now live – AI bot, ask it anything and it will explore the website for the best answer **Changes to early CMPSS provider numbers** • Correction notes: The information provided on this was not completely accurate. The certificate numbers are not numeric only. Instead, early certification numbers that did not begin with "MPSS" are being updated to aligned to the new standard format MPSS-XXXXXX. Affected CMPSS will receive a new certification number with the new format and X can be alpha-numeric characters. • Changes and emails will go out November 1, 2024. **Test Preparation Guide updated** • Both the English and Spanish Test Preparation Guide have been updated and posted to our website. https://www.capeercertification.org/exam-preparation-guide/ • There are now a total of 32 test preparation questions and a rationale for the correct answers is provided to explain why that is the best answer • Feedback about the addition of the rationales has been positive.

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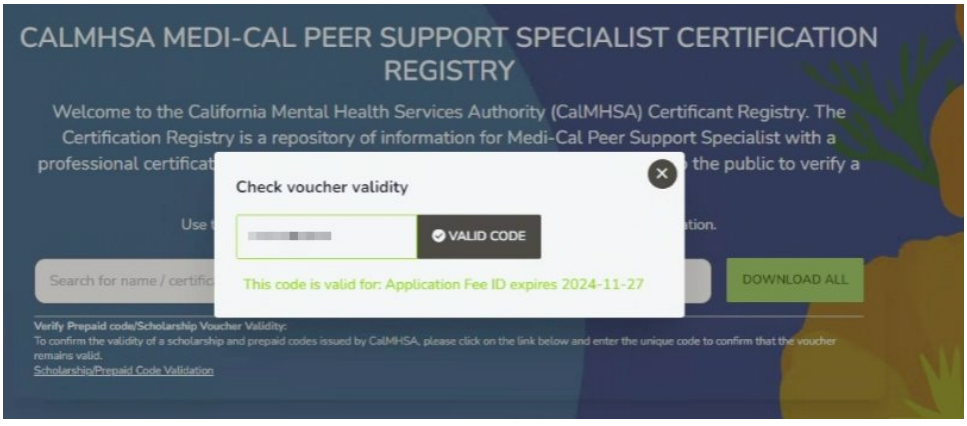
CalMHSA Prepaid Voucher Codes

- Counties, community organizations, and individuals can bulk purchase these unique codes directly from CalMHSA.
- "Prepaid Voucher Codes" cover the cost for ***either*** the application, exam, or training.
- Prepaid Voucher Codes are administered by the purchasing agency. The agency uses their prepaid codes exclusively for their use.
- CalMHSA does **NOT** assign nor distribute Prepaid Codes directly to individuals seeking certification.

Reminder on Prepaid Voucher Codes



*Please note: Individuals with questions regarding prepaid codes should contact the agency who issued the prepaid code.
**To check whether a scholarship or prepaid code is valid and not expired or used, agencies may visit CalMHSA Scholarship/Prepaid Code Validation Checker on the Registry page of the peer certification website.

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Peer Support Certification for Justice-Involved Individuals

- Many questions have come in about the California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) which is a CalMHSA approved Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification training provider.
- CCHS is a department within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR).
- CDCR has not released many details about the program. CalMHSA has shared the public knowledge that they have made available.
- First CDCR justice involved Women's Peer training class of 200 individuals has graduated!
- CalMHSA attended Western Advances in Correctional Health Conference where they talked about offering hope for employment upon reentry and further building the mental health workforce. https://youtu.be/XYN0CuGDbvs?si=Ph0d2XefRm1bltbp
- California is the only place in the nation offering Peer Support Training to currently incarcerated people.

Continuing Education (CE) 2025 Application Cycle Update

- CE Trainer Application Cycle set to reopen Jan 1, 2025
- Applications for trainings in Spanish are encouraged.
- New, updated Training Provider application process
- Visit our website's "Becoming A Training Provider" page
- https://www.capeercertification.org/become-a-training-provider/
- Review our updated Training Provider Application Guide
- Review complete guide before applying
- An English/Spanish Translation Glossary has been created and posted to our Resource Library
- https://www.capeercertification.org/english-spanish-glossary/

Certification Renewal

- Certification renewal is required every 2 years
- Email reminder is sent out 90 days prior to certification expiration
- To renew please log into our portal and click Apply for Renewal
- Continued Education of 20 hours (including 6 hours of law & ethics) is required
- Attest and maintain CE records for 2 years from Renewal
- CalMHSA conducts random audits
- Review Certification Renewal page on our website for detailed information
- https://www.capeercertification.org/certification-renewal-continued-education-requirements/

Acceptable Continuing Education Sources

- CalMHSA approved Training Providers for Continued Education

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	• The following pre-approved courses taught by CalMHSA-approved training providers • Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Core Competency Training • Peer Services Specialized Training • Training that is offered by the County Behavioral Health Departments, and its contracted network providers. • Training courses completed through accredited schools, including vocational education. • Training courses by professional certification and licensing boards (i.e., CAADE, CADTP, CAMFT, BBS, APA). • New! Trainings from nationally recognized organizations in the field of behavioral health education and advocacy (i.e. SAMHSA). **CEU Acceptable Training, Education, Coursework** Courses fundamental to the understanding or practice of peer support; • Courses of the discipline of peer support in which significant recent developments have occurred; • Courses of other disciplines that enhance the understanding of the practice of peer support specialists; and • Courses related to the treatment of the client population being served (e.g., theoretical frameworks of recovery and wellness; intervention techniques with individuals, families, and systems of care). • Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist certification training and training in areas of specialization (CalMHSA-approved training providers). • Courses that cover pragmatic aspects of clinical practice (e.g., legal or ethical issues, consultation, recordkeeping, supervision training). • Disclosures to clients • Application of legal and ethical standards in different types of work settings. **Continued Education Eligibility** • Determining the eligibility is the responsibility of the Peer, and our team will not be able to provide you with approval for each course. If your course in question meets the above criteria, you may consider it an acceptable course to count towards your renewal requirement. For detailed information regarding the certification renewal process, we kindly request you visit our website's "Certification Renewal" page. • https://www.capeercertification.org/certification-renewal-continued-education-requirements/

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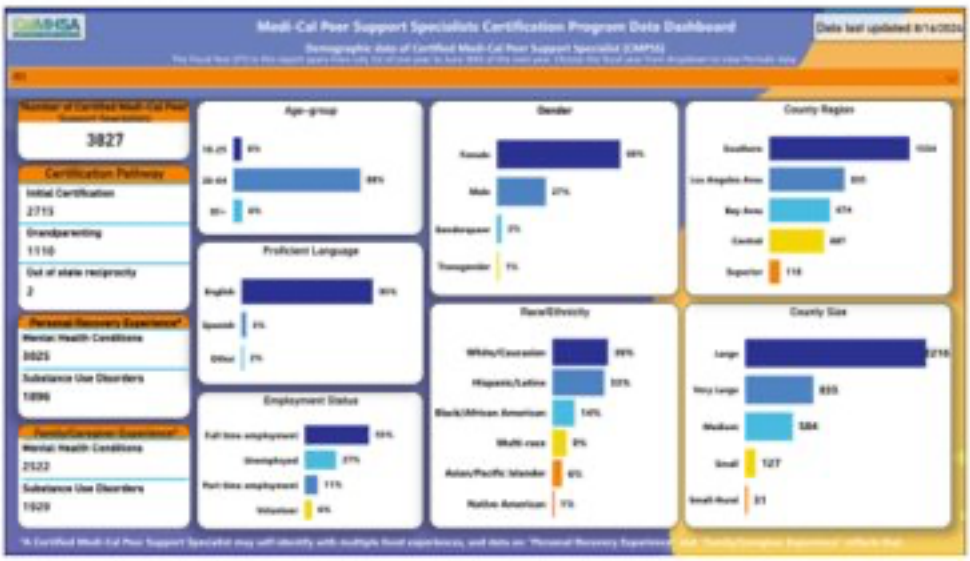
Peer Certification Program Data	**HUGE shout-out to our amazing Epidemiologist, Nivy Meethan** **Her incredible work on CA's Peer Certification data has been praised as an example of national standards by SAMHSA!** The development of meaningful metrics relative to a robust and sustainable peer workforce can be a next step toward states aligning with the National Model Standards. States can measure and track the number of peers who 1) apply for certification, 2) obtain and retain certification, 3) attain training and do not become certified, and 4) become certified, enter the workforce, expand employment opportunities, and enter into supervisory roles. Additionally, measurement regarding the type of employment that certified peers obtain and retain can reflect the quality of the certification process. Metrics regarding ethics complaints and resolution could be an important barometer to gauge how well a specific standard is being addressed. California's Peer Support Specialist Certification Program Data Dashboard is an example of a data transparency approach that could serve to inform progress and process. ***Figure 1: Peer Support Specialist Certification Program Data Dashboard for California***  **Full article:** https://peerrecoverynow.org/product/states-alignment-with-samhsa-model-standards-for-peer-support-certification/ **Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists Certification Program** • **CalMHSA received 8700+ applications** • **4192 Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists Certified (CMPSS)** • **1520 individuals completed the CalMHSA training: Supervision of Peer Workers** **For demographic information on Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists:** **https://www.capeercertification.org/certification-program-data-dashboard/**

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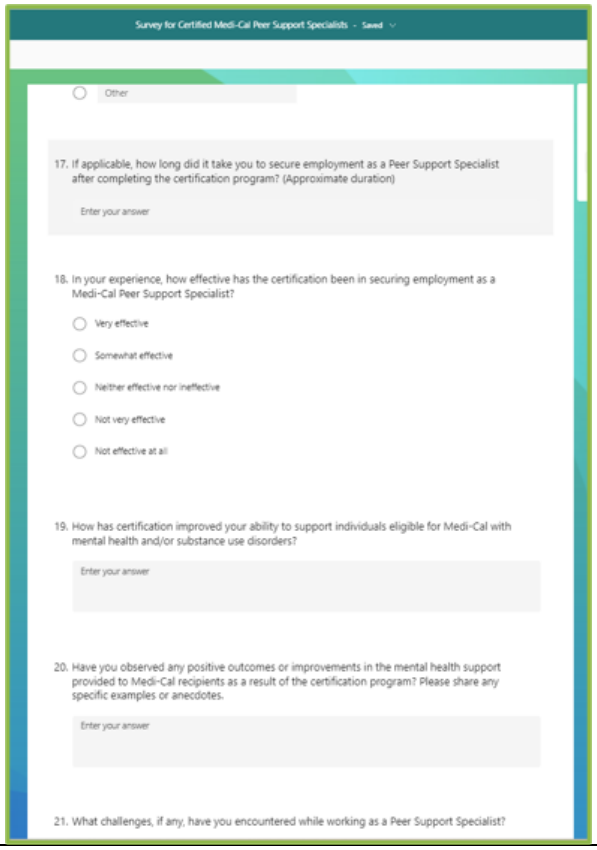
Quality Assurance	• CalMHSA Feedback Survey for Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists is open until 31 Oct 2024. • The survey covers the following domains: • Training Experience • Exam Experience • Certification Process Experience • Career Placement and Outcomes • Psychological and Economic Well-being • CMPSS Demographic 

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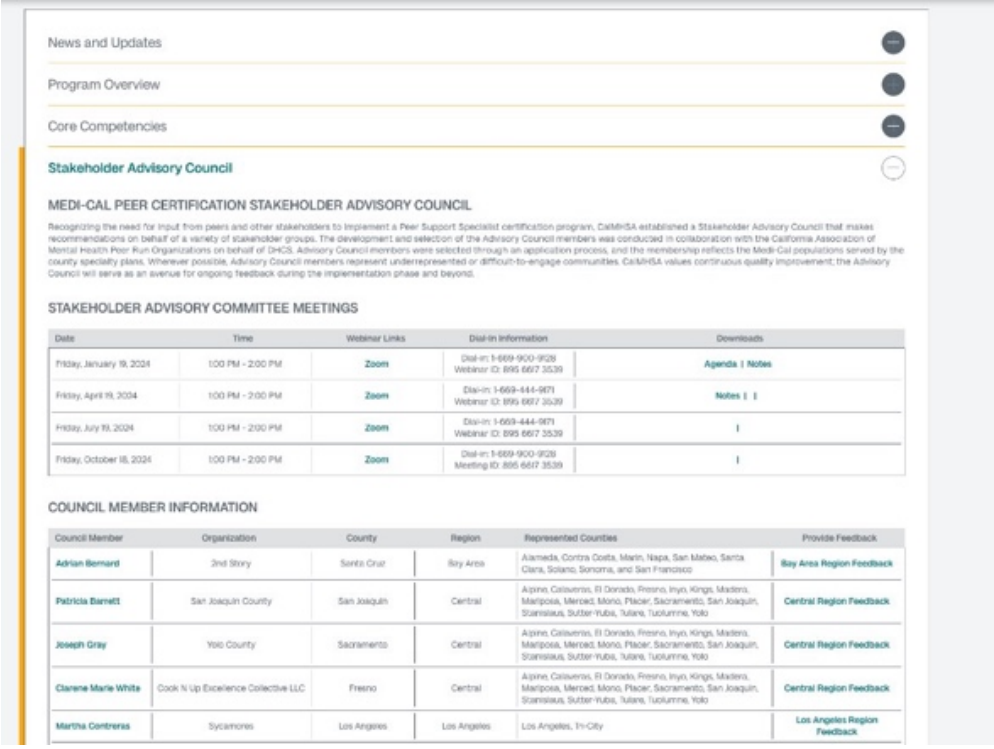
Community Feedback	**Feedback Link for Advisory Council Members** • Updated Council members • Link found on CalMHSA.org 
Public Comment	• A member of the public advocated for CalMHSA to revise their exam retake fee • Another member of the public advocated for CalMHSA to remove the high school diploma Peer Certification requirement. • A member of the public advocated for the certification renewal fees to be reduced for Peers that are unemployed.
Q&A	All questions were answered during the Q&A period.
Upcoming General Meetings	**Q1 Meeting: TBA** Zoom Dial-in Information: **Dial-In:** 1-699-900-9128 **Meeting ID:** 843 6141 4645 **Weblink:** https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84361414645

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Thank you	Meeting adjourned at 2:00p