Off the Beaten Path: Delivering Hope to Peers Far and Wide

Utah State University (USU) Certified Peer Support Specialist (CPSS) Training Program

Susan Mansfield, MSW
OUTLINE

• Our Challenges
• Why This Matters to You
• Our Goals
• What We Did
• The Future of CPSS in Utah
Urban areas of Utah
Our Challenges #1

Most CPSS concentrated in one urban area.
Our Challenges #2

Most CPSS concentrated in one urban area.

Many CPSS didn’t have jobs, few jobs available.
Our Challenges #3

Most CPSS concentrated in one urban area.

Many CPSS didn’t have jobs, few jobs available.

The role of CPSS poorly understood by other behavioral health workers.
WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU

How do you reach rural locations?

How do you create more jobs?

How do you educate clinicians?
Our Goals

1. To teach peers from all locations of Utah.
2. To expand employment opportunities for CPSS through practicums.
3. Open up new settings for CPSS by outreach to agencies and clinicians.
SUCCESS

what people think it looks like

what it really looks like
How we found our students and practicum sites

Started here

And here
How did you find out about CPSS training?
Students couldn’t afford to come to us and we couldn’t afford to go to them.
The USU distance-learning campus in Kaysville, Utah.
Twenty-eight distance campuses.

We have broadcast trainings to eight of those campuses.
Interactive Video Conferencing

Front of classroom

Back of classroom
Comparing In-Person vs. Broadcast Training

1. How well did your CPSS training prepare you to begin working as a CPSS?
2. How well did trainers provide a personal connection with class members?
3. How well did the audio/visual system enhance your learning experience?

1. Far Below Expectations
2. Below Expectations
3. Met Expectations
4. Exceeded Expectations
5. Far Exceeded Expectations
Our Trainers
Student Testimonial

“I did 2 days away and 3 days with you. I enjoyed all 5 days and took home something from each day.

I enjoyed the in-person days because it was more hands on. The energy in the room was much higher than when I was alone. It was hard to get excited with everyone when you couldn't feel the energy. But the away days were ok and I learned what I needed to learn.

Ginger and Brian kept me in the loop and made sure I was involved in the discussions.”
Renna
ADVOCACY !!!

your Voice

Advocacy
FACEBOOK
USU-Certified Peer Support Specialist Trainings “People Helping People”
## Considerations in Finding the Right Practicum Placement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current connection to an agency?</th>
<th>No current connection to an agency?</th>
<th>The way forward?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volunteering</td>
<td>What population of peer</td>
<td>Current USU-Community Partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring</td>
<td>Want a job afterwards</td>
<td>Referrals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group leader</td>
<td>What kind of agency</td>
<td>Suggestions by the CPSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chance of a job</td>
<td>Work hours</td>
<td>Websites</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Willing to be a pioneer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other needs</td>
<td></td>
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USU-Community Partners

- Addiction Treatment Centers
- Community MH/SUD Agencies
- State Hospital
- Private Mental Health Clinic
- Hospital Behavioral Health Access Center

- Utah’s Refugee Health Clinic
- Homeless Shelters
- Adult Probation & Parole
- Foster Care Transition to adult
- Latino Behavioral Health Center (Peer-led)
Comparing In-Person vs. Broadcast Practicum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>In-Person</th>
<th>Broadcast</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How would you rate your practicum supervisor?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How would you rate your overall practicum experience?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.43</td>
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</tbody>
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- 1. Far Below Expectations
- 2. Below Expectations
- 3. Met Expectations
- 4. Exceeded Expectations
- 5. Far Exceeded Expectations
Graduates Planning to Pursue Further Education at a College or University

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>In-person</th>
<th>Broadcast</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, a higher certification</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, Bachelor in behavioral health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, Master in behavioral health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, not in behavioral health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No further education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Employment Status at 1-year Post-graduation for all Graduates
The Future of CPSS in Utah

What’s Next?
The Youth in Transition Training and our New Legislative Rule opens the way for:

- Juvenile Justice
- Public and Private schools
- Child and Family Services
- Youth Shelters
- Youth Crisis and Treatment programs
- Youth Homeless Centers
Contact Information
USU CPSS Training Program

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