

Certified Peer Specialists

Utilizing life experiences to support others in their recovery process



Stronger today. Brighter tomorrow.



What is a Certified Peer Specialist?

A Certified Peer Specialist is a paid staff person who is willing to self-identify as a person with a serious behavioral health disorder (mental illness, substance use disorder or co-occurring disorder) with lived experiences. To be certified, the person must have received specific training in the role, functions and skills of the Certified Peer Specialist position.

The purpose of this position is to aid, teach and support others in their recovery process. This relationship between peers is characterized by mutual trust and respect, sharing of experiences, learning about the recovery process, supporting the peer in multiple settings, achieving goals and moving toward a more meaningful life.

Employment Opportunities

Research has shown that peers have more success than non-peers in getting another person to create healthier lifestyles. Here at Family Service, our Certified Peer Specialists serve as a role models, engage peers and provide support on a variety of health topics.

We employ Certified Peer Specialists in two of our programs: Outpatient Behavioral Health and Supportive Case-management Outreach Team (SCOT).

Certified Peer Specialists in Behavioral Health are based solely at our office in Langhorne while those in SCOT see peers both in the office and out in the community.

The Role of a Certified Peer Specialist

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Meeting with peers individually
- Working with peers on Wellness Recovery Action Plans (WRAP) individually or in a group setting
- Helping peers with nicotine addiction (additional training provided)
- Facilitating peer-run Whole Health Groups and presenting Whole Health to peers on an individual basis (additional training provided by Appalachian Consulting Group)

Additional Responsibilities

Certified Peer Specialists are also responsible for:

- Obtaining all required documentation related to the position
- Keeping a record of yearly certification hours
- Attending trainings related to the position
- Asking for help when needed
- Maintaining a working relationship with one's supervisor

Contact Us

To learn more about our Certified Peer Specialist positions or to apply, contact Debbie Fusco, RN, CTTS at dfusco@fsabc.org or 215.757.6916, ext. 107. You can also visit us online at www.fsabc.org.



ABOUT US

Family Service Association of Bucks County is a nonprofit social service organization with locations throughout Bucks County, Pennsylvania. For more than 60 years, we have been improving the lives of children and their families, doing whatever it takes to help them overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.

LOCATIONS

We serve people where they live and work – in their homes, in their communities and in our offices.

Our locations include offices in Langhorne, Doylestown, Quakertown and Bristol; the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter in Levittown; AACES and the Teen Center at the Oxford Valley Mall in Langhorne; call centers in Richboro and Wynnewood; Bucks Villa in New Hope; and 22 school-based sites across Bucks County.

CONTACT US

For more information, call **215.757.6196** or visit **www.fsabc.org**.



We are a member of CONTACT USA and United Way of Bucks County. We are accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services, Inc. Our agency is licensed by The State of Pennsylvania to provide both outpatient mental health and drug and alcohol services.

Services and employment are provided in a nondiscriminatory manner without regard to race, gender, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, disability, age, sexual orientation or limited English proficiency.