Change agents

“You must be the change you want to see in the world.”

~Mahatma Gandhi
Section 1: Definitions

- "Kentucky Family Peer Support Specialist" means an eligible parent/caregiver who has fulfilled the requirements of this administrative regulation and who is working under the supervision of a mental health professional.

- "Kentucky Family Leadership Academy" or "KFLA" means a prerequisite training designed for parents, caregivers, and youth leaders that foster initial leadership development.
908 KAR 2:230. Kentucky Family Peer Support Specialist

Section 2: Eligibility

1. Be a biological parent, adoptive parent, or relative caregiver with permanent legal custody who is raising, or has raised a child with a severe emotional disability who has been or is a client of at least one state funded service;

2. Have a minimum educational requirement of a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) certificate; and

3. Have successfully completed the KFLA training approved by the department.
Section 4: KY Family Peer Support Specialist’s responsibilities

1. Complete and submit an application for training to the department (or the department’s designee which is currently KPFC);
2. Complete the department approved Family Peer Support Specialist training;
3. Successfully complete the examination following the training; and
4. Complete and maintain documentation of a minimum of six (6) hours of related training or education in each subsequent year.
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Section 3: Department’s responsibility

1. Ensure applications are available for eligible applicants
2. Ensure the state level KFLA training is provided
3. Notification of Kentucky Family Peer Support Specialist training
4. Provision of the state Kentucky Family Peer Support Specialist training from a standard curriculum of core competencies
5. Receipt of documentation of successful completion of the Kentucky Family Peer Support Specialist training
Section 5: Request to waive FPSS training

If an eligible applicant as completed the core competencies to be a Family Peer Support Specialist in another state, they may be able to waive Kentucky’s training.
Section 6: Supervision of KFPSS

(1) Kentucky Family Peer Support Services shall be provided under the supervision of a mental health professional who shall complete:
   (a) Department approved children’s targeted-case management training; or
   (b) The KFLA; and

(2) Face-to-face individual supervision meeting shall occur no less than once a month.
Section 7: Scope of Service and Employment

(1) A Family Peer Support Specialist shall:
   • (a) Be responsible to assist parents or primary caregivers of a client to voice their opinion, needs and goals to benefit the client;
   • (b) Provide services and structured scheduled activities
   • (c) Share their relevant experiences with other parents and primary caregivers

(2) A Family Peer Support Specialist may be employed by a:
   • (a) Community Mental Health - Mental Retardation Board;
   • (b) State operated or contracted facility; or
   • (c) Member agency of the State Interagency Council.
Scope of Service and Employment & Data

(1) A Family Peer Support Specialist shall:

(a) Be responsible to assist parents or primary caregivers of a client to voice their opinion, needs and goals to benefit the client;

(b) Provide services and structured scheduled activities
   1. Promote advocacy skills;
   2. Increase understanding of the client’s disability or disabilities
   3. Enhance the parent or caregiver’s ability to participate in the client’s treatment team; and
   4. Decreases client isolation.

(c) Share their relevant experiences with other parents and primary caregivers
COPE House Data

- Total Face to Face Hours: 646.5 hours (79%)
- Documentation: 121.5 hours (15%)
- Other: 46 hours (6%)
Included in COPE House

Face to Face Hours

- One on one peer support
- Attending a meeting with a parent: school, DCBS, IMPACT team meeting, etc.
- Transportation to and from meetings
- Participation with parent/child in a therapy session
- Facilitating a support group or an educational opportunity
- What else?
Making the Plan for Change

- Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities proposes regulation that recognizes Family Peer Support Specialist as a position and service.
- Legislators pass the regulation.
- Collect data to show cost effectiveness of Family Peer Support Services
- Meet with Medicaid to create a regulation that would make Family Peer Support Specialist Medicaid billable.
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- Identify champions for Family Peer Support Specialist in your community?
- Gather letters of support for the campaign
- Mobilize to bring people to the meeting