

MISSOURI RECOVERY SUPPORT SPECIALIST – Peer (MRSS-P)

Code of Ethics

November 2016

1. A MRSS- P respects the dignity and worth of all people.
2. A MRSS-P will value diversity and not practice, condone, facilitate or collaborate in any form of discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, race, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical disability, or any other preference or personal characteristic, condition or state.
3. A MRSS-P will be guided by the principle of client self-determination while also considering the needs of others and society. The primary responsibility of a MRSS-P is to help individuals they serve achieve their goals, based upon their needs and wants.
4. A MRSS-P will respect the privacy and confidentiality of private information shared by people utilizing peer support services or other related professional services at the organization. Unless necessary for supervision, required by law, or otherwise consented to by the individual personally, no confidential information will be revealed to anyone.
5. A MRSS-P will advocate for the full integration of individuals into their chosen community living environment.
6. A MRSS-P will not engage in romantic or sexual intimacies with the people utilizing peer support services in the organization where the MRSS-P is working. A MRSS-P will not engage in romantic or sexual intimacies with an individual the MRSS-P has provided peer services to for a period of 2 years after the peer relationship has been terminated. A MRSS-P does not provide peer support services to anyone with whom they've had romantic or sexual intimacies in the past.
7. A MRSS-P will not use relationships with people utilizing peer support services for financial gain or put the person at risk of exploitation or harm.
8. A MRSS-P will work to keep their environment safe for others.

9. A MRSS-P never intimidates, threatens, harasses, uses undue influence, physical force or verbal abuse, or makes unwarranted promises of benefits to the people that utilize peer support services.
10. A MRSS-P will strive to understand variables that impact relationships with those utilizing peer support services and to be trauma-informed.
11. A MRSS-P will not use illegal substances or alcohol under any circumstance. In addition, a MRSS-P will not use a prescribed medication in a non-prescribed way and will only use over the counter medication for its intended use.
12. A MRSS-P will keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to recovery.
13. A MRSS-P will maintain high standards of personal conduct, modeling accountable relationships, and fostering wellness and self-care along with their own recovery.
14. A MRSS-P will acknowledge their limits to knowledge when discussing areas outside the expertise of the field of wellness, such as prescribing medications or making diagnoses.
15. A MRSS-P should speak in simple terms, use people first language, and avoid clinical jargon or stigmatizing language. A MRSS-P will strive to help individuals understand substance use disorder and recovery language.
16. A MRSS-P will strive to avoid dual relationships or commitments that conflict with the interests of those they serve. When a dual relationship or conflict can't be avoided, the MRSS-P informs a supervisor of the relationship or conflict and strives to ensure the person is not exploited in any way.
17. A MRSS-P will not accept gifts of significant value from those they serve. A MRSS-P does not loan, give or receive money or payment for any services to or from individuals they serve.
18. A MRSS-P will never use derogatory language in their communications, whether written or verbal, to or about individuals they serve and avoid negative criticism of colleagues in communicating with individuals they serve and other professionals.

19. A CRPR shall report any felony or misdemeanor conviction to the Missouri Credentialing Board within 30 days of the date of conviction.