

Session 23

Peer Specialist Ethics Role Play

Scenario #1

Jeannie is a Peer Specialist who works in a day treatment unit of a local hospital. She has developed a good relationship with Mildred, a consumer receiving services there, who frequently refuses to take her prescribed medications for bipolar disorder.

Jeannie and the other staff members have had a great deal of difficulty with Mildred when she is not taking her medications. Dawn, one of the psychiatric nurses on the unit, approaches Jeannie and asks her if she can persuade Mildred to get back on her medications and stay on them. Jeannie agrees and does her best to convince Mildred to take her medications.

What's the ethical issue(s) in this situation?

What values are conflicting in this situation?

What are some actions the Peer Specialist could take when faced with this situation? What are the challenges and benefits of each action?

Scenario #2

You are a Peer Specialist working at Rainbow House, a local substance use treatment center. You have been working with both Monte and John, consumers served by Rainbow House who are currently roommates. One of Monte's goals is to find a permanent place to live on his own. John approaches you one day, very upset, and asks you if you've heard that Monte is thinking of moving out of their apartment. You tell John that you did hear about it and go on to say how proud you are of Monte for working towards this goal.

What's the ethical issue(s) in this situation?

What values are conflicting in this situation?

What are some actions the Peer Specialist could take when faced with this situation? What are the challenges and benefits of each action?

Scenario #3

Ana, a Peer Specialist, has been working with Lawrence for the past year, with Lawrence making great progress toward his goals. Lawrence has always been friendly but has seemed particularly attentive in the last month. One day he stops in to see Ana and invites her to go out to dinner with him next Friday night, saying that he has been feeling really “down” and that going out to dinner with her would really help him. Ana wants to help, so she agrees to go out to dinner with Lawrence.

What’s the ethical issue(s) in this situation?

What values are conflicting in this situation?

What are some actions the Peer Specialist could take when faced with this situation? What are the challenges and benefits of each action?

Scenario #4

Reginald, a Peer Specialist at a behavioral health facility, is sitting at his desk at work, completing some paperwork and is in view of an individual client who is about to be discharged from inpatient care. Another client walks up to the desk to ask Reginald a question when Reginald says out loud (but to himself), “Just wait, he’ll be back in a week. Who are they kidding, he’ll never be able to make it outside.”

What’s the ethical issue(s) in this situation?

What values are conflicting in this situation?

What are some actions the Peer Specialist could take when faced with this situation? What are the challenges and benefits of each action?