OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Certified Peer Specialist Advisory Committee			Attending: Members present: Amy Polsin, Amy Yonker, April Luderus, Catherine Oreto, Chrystal Kuzel, Deanna Cobun, Emma Duchrow, Jesse Jonesberg, Kimberlee Coronado, Mary Cerretti, Oleka Parker, Tanya Kraege, Terry Crawford, Todd Campbell, Alysia Mullins State and Contract Staff: Marguerit Galindo, Katie Sparks, Jessica Andrews, Ann Kelley-Kuehmichel, Leanne Delsart, Julie Nalepinski, Amy Cottington, Ashley Borlick, Denise Eder, Julie Lentz, Morgan Kebbekus, Acienda Yang, Kaeden Watford Public Guests: Denise Johnson, Robert Kaminski, Sharon Reilly, Lisa Beels, Lisa Brodsky Auter, Taylor Jurgens, Viktor Kilpatrick
Date: 6/12/2026	Time Started: 12:30 pm	Time Ended: 3:29 pm	
Location: Zoom			Presiding Officer: Tanya Kraege

Minutes

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Tanya Kraege at 12:33 pm.

2. Zoom Logistics – Tanya Kraege, Co-chair of the CPSAC reviewed Zoom logistics

- Voting will be conducted using the "Raise Hand" function.
- Members should remain muted unless speaking and raise their hand to contribute.
- Speakers should state their name before speaking.
- Closed captions are available.
- Public guests may not vote or participate in discussion verbally or via chat but may share comments during the Public Comment section.

3. Welcome and introductions – Marguerit Galindo facilitates welcomes and introductions

- Members and DHS staff introduced themselves.

4. Announcements –

- Current funding opportunities
  - Peer Run Respites Funding Opportunity – Closes July 3, 2026
  - Peer Recovery Center Funding Opportunity – Closes June 24, 2026

5. Approval of March 13, 2026 minutes

- Motion to approve: Kimberlee Coronado
- Second: Amy Polsin
- Vote: Unanimous. Passes.

6. Peer values: DeAnna Cobun, Co-Chair of the CPSAC shared two categories of Peer Values today:
(#2) Believes in and respects people's rights to make informed decisions about their lives.
(#10) Believes in the healing power of healthy relationships and community.

Key points included:

- Healthy relationships and values supports us in multiple transitions, daily.

- An important part of peer voice is informed decisions. These informed decisions about our lives can at times, be taken or feel as though they are being taken from us.
- What can we do? Ask questions to use our voice and build a community to help heal each other in transition – through government, work, family, and our community. Our voice is what lifts us.
- Angst and anxiety in the uncertainty of the current world.

7. Subcommittee report out:

- **Employment Subcommittee:** Amy Yonker, co-chair reported:
  - Did not meet quorum for the last subcommittee meeting. No updates.
- **Governance Subcommittee:** Tanya Kraege, co-chair reported:
  - Bylaws are finished by the subcommittee. They have also been officially reviewed by DHS. They now need approval from the CPSAC body. A vote is needed to have them officially published and implemented.
    - Todd Campbell raises two questions regarding language in the bylaws.
    - Question one: actions of BPTR during approval process. Discussion. Group suggest the following change:
      - Change language on page 18 – *it is up to the discretion of BPTR to act "or not act".*
    - Question two: process of BPTR advisement, regarding reporting back and communicating back and forth with BPTR and CPSAC for approvals.
      - Change language on page 18 - *BPTR leadership will review and report out action plan, or provide guidance on next steps.*
  - Kimberlee Coronado motions to approve Bylaws with the amendments noted above.
  - Christopher Zahn second.
  - Vote: Motion passes.
- **Membership Subcommittee:** Oleka Parker or Kimberlee Coronado, co-chair reported:
  - Subcommittee is in the process of reviewing current membership application.
  - Currently there are 6 open member seats.
  - Currently there are 3 organizational open member seats.
  - Timeline for membership applications
    - Subcommittee plans to publish request for applications in late June.
    - Applications will be open for 3 weeks, and then close in July.
    - Subcommittee will review and make recommendations to DCTS by August.
    - Subcommittee will then reach out to those approved for membership to attend the September 11th CPSAC meeting.
    - Membership orientation will be completed in Fall of 2026.
- **Professional Development Subcommittee:** Todd Campbell, co-chair reported:
  - Subcommittee has recently been working on developing recommendations to CPSAC regarding actions and clarifications to the CITEE transition.
  - Recommended actions and clarifications developed to provide to BPTR in the following document:

Recommended Actions and Clarifications Related to the CITEE Transition

- The training and certification program is now peer-led. There is concern about the training program becoming whitewashed by academia or for it to become too clinical. We encourage a strong presence of peers and parent peers in the leadership of the program.
- All parties (DHS, WIPSEI, and CITEE) should share complete information with the peer and parent peer workforce in a timely manner. Specific topics of concern include:
    - Recertification is coming due at the time of the transition, how will that be handled?
    - The present and near-future availability of trainings for both the peers and parent peers.
- Schedule regular listening sessions or webinars so that peers and parent peers can participate. These should be recorded and posted so that the information is accessible for those who cannot attend.
- The number of trainings CITEE will be conducting per year, the number of people who will be trained per year, and the pass rate of test-takers. These numbers should not decrease from current levels. These performance measures should be included in the DHS agreement with CITEE.
- Culturally-specific specific aspects of the training must be maintained.
- Under the hub and spoke model, how will CITEE ensure there is sufficient coverage to meet the demand for trainings?
- How does the A-PEERS training fit into the continuing education for peers and parent peers? How is it funded? How long will it be continued?

    - Todd Campbell motions to approve this list and send to BPTR.
    - Oleka Parker second.
    - Vote: Unanimous. Motion passes.

8. CPSAC training workgroup updates:

- Peer-Centered Supervision Training Workgroup: Updates were provided today by Chrystal Kuzel:
    - Workgroup is currently working on developing a training for peer centered supervision. Main goals are to provide practical real-world techniques, tools, and practices for supervisors of peers.
    - Core framework has been developed.
    - Collective scenarios have been reviewed for role plays in the training.
    - Role plays have been paired with fundamentals.
    - Need to write scripts, record role plays, develop powerpoint, and write script for powerpoint.
- RITF/CPSAC Collaboration: Non-Peer Workforce Training Workgroup: Updates provided by Oleka Parker:
    - Scope of this training is for the non-peer workforce.
    - Three main points in these trainings:
        - Understanding role clarity and difference between peer and non-peer roles.
        - Benefits of peer practice and peer professionals
        - Peer professionals in the workplace: wellness support in the workplace, access to peer networks, access to professional development.
    - Currently exploring training formats with RITF
    - Coming back to our cross collaborative workgroup with RITF with training timelines for our specific projects assigned next.
- Tanya Kraege leads discussion regarding workgroup training topics, low attendance, and the possibility of CPSAC assigning these to subcommittees.
    - Current barriers to the workgroup set up:
        - Workgroups have been low attended.
        - Same main few people have been doing the work and showing up.
        - Workgroups do not currently have a structure, attendance requirements, or staffing support.

- Solutions that could come from subcommittee assignment:
  - Responsibility from members at scheduled meetings.
  - Accountability of members for attendance.
  - Organized structure and staffing.
- Tanya opens up the discussion regarding the possibility of assigning these workgroups to subcommittees – What does the CPSAC feel about this?
  - Chrystal Kuzel discusses capacity during subcommittee meetings with current schedules and quorum issues.
  - Katie Sparks offer suggestions of what is working well with the RITF, as the lead RITF staffer – assignments to subcommittees, implementing meeting schedule changes, monthly/bi-monthly meeting changes, the advisory committee and its subcommittees has the ability to change their meeting times, dates etc. whenever needed, according to their bylaws, to fit the needs of the members, with the proper motions and approvals.
  - Kimberlee Coronado suggests the offer of possible stipends for people who are working on this content and providing their expertise.
  - Amy Yonker asks if the governance committee can discuss moving and/or changing the subcommittee meeting schedule outside of a scheduled meeting, as they have struggled to meet quorum the last two scheduled meetings. Marguerit confirms that they can survey the group for beneficial meeting times and logistics, outside of a public meeting.
  - Nicole Iuro asks questions regarding timeline of training priorities and considering if CPSAC is even realistically able to complete these during the timeline given. Katie Sparks answers that the timeline was changed from the original December 2026 date to June 2027 to give CPSAC and RITF more time to develop assigned trainings and content with the idea of internal BPTR approval in the summer of 2027 for implementation in the Fall of 2027. She also answers that if CPSAC does not see these priorities as fit, in the current timeline, the CPSAC may consider developing a response in writing to BPTR leadership regarding the current fit and capacity.
  - Chrystal states that given the amount of work currently done, she is apprehensive about putting these priorities on the back burner. She would be in approval of continuing these priorities, with assigned subcommittees.

- Oleka Parker makes a motion to assign the training workgroup priorities to two different subcommittees Employment Subcommittee is assigned the Non-Peer Workforce training and the Professional Development Subcommittee is assigned the Peer Supervision training.
  - Tanya Kraege seconds motion.
  - Motion passes.

9. Break – 5 minute break at 2:02 pm. Meeting resumes at 2:07pm

10. Special meeting for CITEE presentation discussion: Jessica Andrews, Assistant Administrator, DCTS

- The voice of the peer community is extremely valuable and important to DHS, DCTS, and BPTR. Peer voice is recognized as a critical component of the continuum of care.
- DCTS and BPTR remain committed to supporting, strengthening, and expanding peer services across Wisconsin and are actively working on multiple initiatives to support the peer workforce. Some of these efforts include:
  - Supporting the successful transition of the training and certification initiative to CITEE and continued expansion of the peer workforce.
  - Expanding Medicaid reimbursement opportunities through the implementation of DHS 72.
  - Developing new training modules and educational content for peers, peer supervisors, and non-peer staff.

    - The development of a youth peer specialist curriculum to expand peer workforce pathways.
    - The development and publication of a peer professional employer toolkit to strengthen organizational readiness, supervision, retention, and integration of peer staff.
- These efforts reflect DHS's ongoing investment in ensuring peer services remain a vital and ongoing part of Wisconsin's behavioral health system.
- Part of that commitment to keeping the peer community informed and engaged throughout the training transition, CITEE has proposed a special meeting to be held with the CPSAC on July 17th, 2026 from 9am-12pm. Originally CITEE was scheduled to present at this meeting – the June CPSAC meeting date, but they were unable to attend. This proposed special meeting would serve as a meet and greet opportunity for CPSAC members and the broader peer community to:
    - Learn more about CITEE.
    - Updates on the training transition.
    - Ask questions, receive, and the ability to provide feedback.
- No significant transition updates to share at this time. By July 17th, CITEE, ATI, and DHS will have completed a couple of transition meetings. Following those, there will be a more meaningful status update and discussion.
- Moving forward, this committee will need to decide if they would like to move forward with the special meeting date with CITEE on July 17, 2026 OR move forward with a poll to assess meeting date availability.
    - Suggestion to do a poll from Mary and DeAnna
    - Todd asks if meeting could be recorded and posted?
        - Unsure, but Marguerit will check with DHS Communications department to see what our ability is to record and post meeting recording somewhere.
    - Oleka – most fair to all of us to do a poll and see what schedule and/or meeting time works best. Not everyone is available, but many people would like to attend.
- Oleka motions to do a poll to schedule a different meeting time with CITEE.
- Mary Cerretti seconds that motion.
- Discussion: Todd Campbell requests that the Department responds to the request of recording and posting that meeting prior to sending out poll. Also, include that information in the poll.
- Motion passes with the above information added.
    - Marguerit will check on the recording and posting question with BPTR leadership and DHS Comms. Marguerit will be the one to send out the doodle poll with the answers to the above questions.

11. Peer Voice: Tanya Krage led this peer voice discussion
WIPSEI to CITEE Transition discussion questions

- What has been working well with the peer training initiative? If we had a perfect system, what should CITEE consider during the transition to build infrastructure for this initiative?
    - Peer leaders (Peer Professionals) still facilitating the COPs – peer led continuing education hours.
    - Continue monthly virtual peer networking opportunities.
    - The current curriculum stands – not updating the current curriculum – there was a lot of work that went into the current one. There have been three overall, the most current one has a higher success rate and is well done.
    - Website concerns – resources, infrastructure, employer opportunities, employer toolkit. WIPSEI has done a great job making their website a one-stop shop for peer workforce.

        - Can this information be moved to the DHS website (CPSAC tab) prior to transition to CITEE?
- What should DHS and CITEE focus on to ensure continued expansion of the peer recovery support services?
    - Cross collaboration is great with WIPSEI with other DHS peer contract holders. Imperative that collaboration and communication remain fluid, and that peers are highly involved in collaboration with CITEE in addition to other DHS peer contracts.
    - There has been a lot of effort to get people trained and certified. There has not been a lot of work on the workforce side – regarding employment, benefits, pay, opportunities to work, etc. It is imperative that DHS and CITEE focus on ensuring expansion on the workforce.
    - Making sure peer work is left at the peer level, and not to another profession – keeping peers at the forefront.
    - Ensuring access to peer support for all people, when they need it, regardless of zip code or income.
- What support or resources would help strengthen the peer workforce and create pathways for peers to grow as leaders, trainers, supervisors, and advocates?
    - Directories and/or resources guides
    - TA around supporting RCOs and PROs on billing and funding streams. Pathways are built on building sustainable programs, which then builds sustainable positions.
    - Increasing pay and benefits for peer professionals – not diminishing their pay compared to other professionals in the workforce.
    - Paying individuals actual full-time employment to offer lived experience in systems, especially in government departments, not just volunteering their time.
    - Is there opportunity for CITEE to network and/or advocate to organizations – outreach to employers to build the workforce. Possible peer consultant work to do this through CITEE funding.
    - Support more people who fall in the gap between Medicaid and private healthcare coverage.
- What can DHS and CITEE do to ensure peers, parent peers, trainers, employers, and other community partners continue to feel informed, engaged, and heard throughout the transition?
    - We didn't really get to be a part of the decision, and we didn't get a say or the opportunity to offer our voice. Trust has been broken and there was not transparency until recently.
        - Relationship repairing is necessary in this space. We are feeling hurt and unclear.
        - This hurt and relationship building and repairing extends farther than this group and goes deep into the peer workforce.
    - A listening session would be valuable to have our voices be heard, and then ask that our requests, concerns, and considerations be actually considered.
    - CITEE's website causes confusion and frustration. For example, different levels of CPS, master's degree, etc. I have 18 years of workforce experience, but that is not represented here.
    - It feels very transactionary, clinical, fearful, and uncomfortable. The unclarity causes fear. Their website is very complicated, inaccessible, and is not rooted in peer value. They want us to come to the table, but they don't come to ours to learn our values.
    - Solutions:
        - We need a restorative conversation.

    - Listening session with the communities we advocate for without the fear of retaliation.
    - Answers to why and how this all came about would help with understanding and clarity.
        - Who were the decision makers in this and why were we not a part of it? Who is taking responsibility and can it the transition be explained clearly to us from the beginning.
    - A conversation on vision and goals on what CITEE can do and is willing to do with us.
- What is one piece of advice you would like DHS and CITEE to keep in mind as they steward the future of Wisconsin's peer support training and certification system?
    - People have been able to make their professional lives based off their lived experience.
    - Academia should not be taking over the peer community and lived experience rolls. People should not have to get education and letters behind their names to be respected in the workforce. Lived experience should be respected across the board. Keep grassroots and autonomy in the forefront. Our movement will shift quickly when big systems and academia get involved.
    - If you have a priority for peer services – then you need to pay for it and put it in your budget.
    - *Peers need to be at the forefront* – trainers, developers, peer voice. They need to be at the table and it needs to remain that way. It does not feel that way right now and CITEE does not have peers at their forefront or table.

12. Public comment (limited to three minutes per person)

- Sharon Reilly – question– talking about the CITEE program transition. I am curious how that CITEE transition will impact rural program services – positively or negatively, especially northern Wisconsin. Requests that this transition stays within the peer support arena and less academic settings. Represents Great Lakes Tribal Council – 36 bed facility for youth. One of the major downfalls of that is the access to peer support providers for youth. Asking for more support in the workforce for peers who will support youth. Workforce expansion is important – we need to think about peer support as a whole system so the continuum of care for prevention and treatment is happening, within the communities.
    - Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council. 715-588-1045. sreilly@glitc.org. Project Brochure.
- Denise Johnson – I want to talk about the transition to CITEE and the future of that and what that would look like. I focus on SUD and MH – but if you look at SUD recovery – in the past, addicts themselves would provide support to others. Then, clinicians took over. My fear for the future – individuals with lived experience wouldn't be able to provide supports to individuals in recovery. It took many many years to figure out how individuals in recovery could support others. I am wondering how lived experience support would be impacted regarding degrees and academic level, with the transition to CITEE.
- Lisa Brodsky Auter – requests that general members of the peer community be made aware of future meetings with CITEE for public to attend. They are developing an advocacy group in Madison and would like to be made aware to provide public input.

13. DCTS updates: Jessica Andrews, DCTS Assistant Administrator, provided updates regarding DCTS work.

- DHS collaborated with UW-Population Health to do a detailed gaps analysis for mental health and substance use services. You can access that report here.
- Current funding opportunities.
- Wisconsin Substance Use Summit will be held on August 5th and 6th at Oneida Casino in Green Bay. Registration is currently open.
- A new administrative rule is being developed for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities. Final draft of the rule is expected to be completed in September.

14. CPPS updates: Leanne Delsart, Children Youth and Families Section Supervisor (BPTR), provided CPPS updates.

- CPPS will now be held in the Children Youth and Families Section moving forward.
- Recently met with CPPS trainers regarding intention of the curriculum revision, accomplishments, scope, etc. This helps to have parent peer voice when reviewing the CPPS curriculum moving forward.
- Anne Kelly-Kuehmichel will be the new contact for CPPS.
    - Anne introduces herself to group. Explains her gratefulness to learning about the history and evolvement of the CPPS curriculum and workforce.

15. ATI/WIPSEI report out: Kaeden Watford of WIPSEI provided third-quarter updates (4/1/26-6/30/26):
Workforce Numbers
Current totals:

- 1,516 Certified Peer Specialists (CPS)
- 132 Certified Parent Peer Specialists (CPPS)

Trainings Completed:

- 4 community-funded CPS trainings
- 1 DHS-funded CPS training
- 0 community-funded CPPS trainings
- 1 DHS-funded CPPS training

Trainings Scheduled:

- 8 Community-funded CPS trainings
- 14 DHS-funded CPS trainings
- 1 Community-funded CPPS training
- 3 DHS-funded CPPS trainings

Exam Results:
CPS Exam (March 18, 2026)

- 33 participants
- 23 passed
- 70% pass rate

CPPS Exam (April 8, 2026)

- 20 participants
- 19 passed
- 95% pass rate

CPPS Exam (May 6, 2026)

- 71 participants
- 57 passed
- 80% pass rate

Recertification

- 120 CPPS were due for recertification by January 31, 2026. 21 CPPS recertified this year.
- New CPPS recertification date is September 30 in the year a CPPS is due. Effective April 8th – the last CPPS exam.
- Approximately 685 CPS's are due for recertification by September 2026.
- New recertification deadline is September 30 of the year that one is due to recertify.

16. Agenda items for next meeting:

- Priority: Peer Respite Coalition presentation with Hope Have update
- Backup: Medicaid presentation regarding PRSS reimbursement rates

17. Adjourn:

- Motion: Kimberlee Coronado
- Second: Christopher Zahn
- Outcome: Motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

Prepared by: Katie Sparks on 6/12/2026.

They have been presented and approved by the governmental body on: 9/11/2026