



Date: June 10, 2016

DMHSAS Information Memo 2016-01

To: Human Services Area Coordinator
DHS Bureau Directors
County Department of Community Programs Directors
County Department of Developmental Disabilities Services Directors
County Department of Human Services Directors
County Department of Social Services Directors
County Mental Health Coordinators
Tribal Chairpersons, Presidents, Behavioral Health Directors

From: Patrick Cork, Administrator

Peer Run Respite

The Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services is pleased to announce that [peer run respites](#) are now open in Appleton, Madison, and Menomonie.

Funded by Governor Scott Walker's 2013 mental health reform initiatives, peer run respites support adults struggling with difficult emotional, psychological, or life circumstances in a safe, home-like environment. Staff have lived through similar situations. They are trained to listen and provide one-on-one and group supports that promote wellness. Medical services such as medication management and therapy are not offered. Guests share their desires and goals. They can come and go as they wish. Stays are short-term, typically no longer than a week. All services are voluntary and provided at no cost.

Peer run respite services are designed to aid in the individual's recovery and avert crises and avoid hospitalizations. In other words, for some people, the peer support offered at a peer run respite can make treatment in the community possible.

Peer run respites are open to all adults in emotional distress no matter where they live in Wisconsin. Individuals self-refer. Together, the prospective guest and staff at the peer run respite determine whether the environment suits the individual's needs. Typically, this is done through an interview completed either in person, over the phone, or both. Peer run respites are not drop-in centers. Prospective guests must contact staff themselves prior to their stay. Providers may encourage clients to contact a peer run respite, but cannot initiate a stay for an individual.

Please contact the peer run respites for specific information about their programs and services.

Appleton

[Iris Place](#)

920-815-3217

irisplace@namifoxvalley.org

Managed by NAMI Fox Valley

Madison

[Solstice House](#)

608-244-5077

solsticehouse@soarcms.org

Managed by SOAR Case Management Services

Menomonie

[Grassroots Wellness](#)

800-770-0588, ext. 1

wellness@grassrootspower.org

Managed by Grassroots Empowerment Project

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