Wisconsin Certified Parent Peer Specialists Core Competencies

DOMAIN 1: Personal Attributes

1.1 Understands, supports, and models the importance of family-driven care
1.2 Accepts the family where they are without judgment
1.3 Able to communicate with empathy
1.4 Able to interact with families with compassion and clarity
1.5 Believes that communication occurs in many forms, not words alone
1.6 Believes that behavior is a form of communication
1.7 Conducts oneself with honesty and integrity

DOMAIN 2: Ethics and Confidentiality

2.1 Understands and maintains confidentiality as required by state and federal law
2.2 Uses self-disclosure appropriately as a tool to provide support
2.3 Understands and maintains professional boundaries
2.4 Treats all people with dignity and respect
2.5 Understands personal and professional limitations and biases based on own knowledge, skill, or experience
2.6 Recognizes when, and to whom, to report ethical and safety issues

DOMAIN 3: Advocacy

3.1 Knows how to and where to find information on child and parental rights
3.2 Assists families in asserting their rights
3.3 Able to assist families to recognize the difference between an individual problem and a system problem or constraint
3.4 Able to assist families in how to advocate effectively within policy-making processes

DOMAIN 4: Wellness

4.1 Understands why self-care is important for parent peer specialists
4.2 Practices self-care strategies that enable one to work effectively with families
4.3 Able to work with families to explore wellness strategies
4.4 Understands the holistic view of family members’ physical, mental, social, and spiritual strengths and needs
4.5 Understands resiliency and recovery principles

DOMAIN 5: Crisis and Safety Planning

5.1 Provides appropriate supports and advises families in the midst of crisis
5.2 Understands the purpose of crisis and safety planning
5.3 Supports families going through a crisis and safety planning process
5.4 Knows safeguarding and relapse prevention strategies for issues such as self-harm and substance abuse
5.5 Knows about suicide and research-based prevention strategies
5.6 Understands the purpose of functional behavioral assessments
5.7 Able to assist others in identifying situations that may cause challenging behavior
5.8 Knows about crisis resources available in the community and region

**DOMAIN 6: Empowerment**

6.1 Able to assist families explore their own choices and recognize the positive and negative consequences of those choices
6.2 Able to allow families the space necessary to help themselves
6.3 Communicates the principles of family-driven care
6.4 Supports, teaches, and coaches parents in identifying and articulating their families’ needs and goals
6.5 Recognizes stigma, common superstitions, and myths regarding mental health and substance use issues
6.6 Able to assist families recognize their strengths and use them to effect change
6.7 Practices interventions to prevent or overcome stigma
6.8 Able to assist families to identify and build informal family and community supports

**DOMAIN 7: Communication**

7.1 Communicates and connects effectively with families of all cultures, value systems, and lifestyles
7.2 Listens actively
7.3 Practices effective information gathering and questioning techniques
7.4 Understands the value of fostering cooperation between families and the individuals and service systems involved in their lives
7.5 Communicates clearly in writing
7.6 Models effective working relationships

**DOMAIN 8: Knowledge**

8.1 Knowledgeable about resources (including funding options), rules, and regulations related to children’s mental health and adolescent substance abuse
8.2 Knowledgeable about child and adolescent mental health and substance use conditions, treatments, services, and supports
8.3 Knowledgeable about how to find information about mental health and substance abuse systems, community resources, treatments, services, supports and individual and family rights
8.4 Knowledgeable about the public education system as it relates to children and youth with mental health and/or substance use issues
8.5 Knowledgeable about how to find information regarding child welfare, juvenile justice, and health care systems in Wisconsin
8.6 Knowledgeable about the process and principles of collaborative systems of care, also known as “wraparound”
8.7 Knowledgeable about recovery-oriented systems of care (ROSC)
8.8 Knowledgeable about current best practices for addressing challenging behavior
8.9 Knowledgeable about impact of trauma on children, youth, and families
8.10 Understands the use of peer specialist services, as differentiated from clinical services