

# Certified Peer Specialist Learning Community

A Partnership with  
Chrysalis, Inc. & EOTO CPS

Organized and facilitated by Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialists, the Certified Peer Specialist Learning Community (CPS-LC) provides consulting services and training to best support peer support roles within organizational settings. As the Certified Peer Specialist profession grows, it is important to understand how to support and integrate these roles within your organization.

We invite you to join our six-month learning cohort to improve outcomes in the following areas:

- **Expand peer support** programs
- **Learn best practices** in supporting and supervising CPS
- **Increase representation and inclusion of CPS** from historically marginalized communities

## Team Members & Shared Learning

For each category above, we encourage agencies to include one or more representatives. Each agency is welcome to invite **a total of five representatives**. There will be opportunities for role-specific group learning and agency-specific technical assistance.

- Certified Peer Specialists
- Peer Specialist Supervisors
- Agency Leadership

## Join Us

The 2024 CPS-LC cohort will run from **April through September**. Participating agencies will be asked to join a monthly learning community via Zoom. Representatives will join cohort groups that we have set up for each role. Agencies will be provided **\$2,500 for their time and contributions** (i.e. attending at least 80% of learning communities).

If you're interested, complete the application form. You can connect with Alysha Clark at [clark@workwithchrysalis.org](mailto:clark@workwithchrysalis.org) with any questions.

# Cohort Structure

Monthly Learning Communities  
Held on Zoom

## Peer Specialists

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**

**12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**

April 10	July 10
May 8	August 7
June 5	September 11**

## Peer Specialist Supervisors

**3rd Wednesday of the Month**

**12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**

April 17	July 17
May 15	August 14
June 12	September 11**

## Agency Leadership

**4th Wednesday of the Month**

**12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**

April 24	July 24
May 22	August 21
June 19	September 11**

## Content Focus Areas

**April: Intro to the Peer Specialist Role**

Exploration of the role and supportive workplace cultures

**May: Self-Disclosure & Boundaries**

Policies, practices, and strategies

**June: Organizational Structure & Recruitment**

Create a sustainable structure for CPS

**July: Crisis Peer Support**

Exploration of CPS in behavioral crisis care

**August: Power & Culture**

Identify organizational culture that centers lived experience while acknowledging the function of power

**September: Wrap-Up & Next Steps\*\***

An integrated community meeting where we will review and celebrate new learning. Identify any technical assistance needs and organizational goals. Hope to meet in person!

# Trainers & Collaborators

## Meet Your Project Team

### Alysha Clark



Alysha (she/her) has been a Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialist since 2013. Alysha has supervised Certified Peer Specialists for over five years. Alysha is passionate about encouraging the ethical supervision of peer specialists and supervising in a way that holds true to the peer specialist model of being a system disruptor. She is currently the Director of Advocacy and Operations at Chrysalis, Inc.

### Tara Wilhelmi



Tara (she/her) leads a local grassroots community recovery and wellness organization, EOTO Culturally Rooted, LLC. She is a Certified Peer Specialist, a Certified Parent Peer Specialist, and a Certified Peer Specialist curriculum trainer. Driven by her passion for positive social change and thriving, healthy communities of color, she enjoys acting as a connector and seed planter, working on several impactful collaborations throughout Wisconsin.

### Dominique Christian



As a Certified Peer Specialist and a Certified Parent Peer Specialist, Dominique (she/they) is experienced in supporting people with mental health, psychological trauma, and substance use concerns. They believe that while many people are passionate about this work, there aren't enough people of color who share commonalities and similar experiences with the peers who are served. They believe their lived experience helps them be effective in supporting and advocating for others in their recovery process.

# Trainers & Collaborators

## Meet Your Project Team

### Jessica Perez



Jessica (she/her) has been a Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialist since 2014. She is passionate about meeting people where they are and has provided peer support in a variety of settings, including crisis units, Assertive Community Treatment teams, Community Support Programs, Housing First programs, peer-run warmlines, and more. Jessica has also facilitated multiple peer support groups around holistic wellness. She has previously trained the curriculum for Certified Peer Specialists and is currently the CPS-LC Trainer & Engagement Coordinator at Chrysalis, Inc.

### Kurt Stapleton



Kurt (he/him) has been a Certified Peer Specialist since 2019. Working for a few agencies in Dane County, he has used his lived experience with opioid use and an Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder diagnosis as a way to connect with others in their self-directed recovery and healing. By joining the CPS-LC, he will use his experience as a Peer Specialist and Peer Specialist Supervisor to help support the participating agencies.

### Riley Hays



Riley (he/him) has been a Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialist since 2021. He has a background in nonprofit administration, project management, communications, and direct support. After college, he began a career in human services, working in social services and behavioral health organizations throughout Madison, WI. He is passionate about fostering workplace cultures that celebrate lived experience and center recovery values. He is currently the Technical Communications Coordinator at Chrysalis, Inc.