**PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY**

The primary purpose of the Peer Support Program is designed for individuals with a mental illness and/or substance abuse addiction. The goal of the Peer Support Program is to assist the consumer in developing service connections, recovery resources, and supports that promote successful community living and minimizes hospitalizations.

Referrals to this program could be made from the Community, Law Enforcement, Medical Personnel, Health and Human Services, Court System, Probation, Clergy, Family Members, Adult Protective Services, and Self-Referrals.

The Peer Support Program will assist clients maintain and improve the necessary daily living and recovery skills to remain in the community and out of an impatient or residential setting.  This includes working in close proximity with the family, Health and Human Services, and other providers.

The Peer Support Program will be organized in the following manner.  The Crisis Response Administrator will be responsible for monitoring the Peer Support Specialist.  The Peer Support Specialist will have contact with clients and their families in the client’s home, in the community, or at other agencies.

Information will be gathered for the Peer Support Program through the use of technology designed specifically to gather data on client demographics, client goals to remain in a community based living environment, client needs assessments, a crisis plan, client contacts, referrals made to other agencies in the community, or referrals to a higher level of care.

The length of the program varies with each individual. Clients have the opportunity to utilize the Peer Support Program in addition to the Crisis Response Program, Day Rehabilitation Program, and Community Support Program for Mental Health.

The consumer will be discharged from services once the consumer is stabilized and no longer wishes to have services.

**HEARTLAND COUNSELING SERVICES, INC.**

**PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR ADULTS**

**Admission Criteria**

* A diagnosis of a mental illness and/or substance abuse addiction with active symptomology;
* Two or more functional limitations in areas of vocational/educational, social skills, Activities of Daily Living (ADL’s), a risk of relapse, a moderate risk of harm to self or others.
* Requires treatment team approach
* Reside in the counties of Dakota, Burt, Thurston, Wayne, or Dixon

**HEARTLAND COUNSELING SERVICES, INC.**

**MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR ADULTS**

**ADMISSION INTO THE PROGRAM**

                The consumer will receive and/or complete the following:

* Personal Data Form
* Medication Records Form
* Consumer Orientation Form
* HIPAA (Notice of Privacy Rights and Practices)
* Consent for Services
* Rights and Responsibilities
* Release of Information Forms
* An interview where an intake is completed (Pre-Treatment Assessment, Mental Status, Psychiatric Evaluation, etc.
* Community Needs Assessment

The Community Services Provider will complete an intake form and/or a Community Needs Assessment upon receiving a referral to the program.  The provider will give information to the consumer about the components of the program and a Community Needs Assessment will be done usually with the consumer and the family.  In addition, a brochure will be available for the consumer to review.

The individualized treatment plan will be discussed and signed by the new consumer.

The services provided in this program will include:

* Initial diagnostic interview
* Initial Assessment
* Community Needs Assessment
* Individualized Treatment Plan/Addendum to Treatment Plan
* Crisis Intervention
* Referrals to appropriate service agencies, as well as support systems
* Working with the consumer’s family members and any other necessary parties
* Direct skill development
* Medication Management
* Employment Skill Development
* Volunteer Skill Development
* Transportation to Appointments
* Education
* What is necessary to assist the consumer to achieve the goals of maintaining independent living
* What is necessary to assist the consumer to achieve the goals and objectives of the individualized plan.

The services are provided in the consumer’s homes, throughout the community and at various hours of the day.  This assists in providing services to the consumers with specialized needs, including those who are unable to travel, have financial difficulties, need assistance with homemaking skills, etc.

This program provides services that are relevant to the diversity of the persons served which would include the following:  respect for ethnic cultural and spiritual traditions, offer printed materials in Spanish and a diverse staff.

The services will be coordinated with other services at the agency as the consumer transitions to a lower level of care.  These services may include:  psychiatric evaluations and treatment, psychological evaluation and treatment, substance abuse treatment depending on the consumer’s needs.  If appropriate, referrals to other agencies will be made.

The Community Support Program will address the developmental stage and needs of the consumer.  Therefore, the Community Support Provider will determine the extent that additional assistance will be required.