

Research-Based Innovations in Wraparound: Resource Sheet 5

There is no question that families who participate in Wraparound typically feel more engaged and more satisfied when they also receive peer support from a family partner. Emerging research suggests that this is also true for youth and young adults in Wraparound. Peer work in Wraparound is challenging work, as it requires the peer support provider to use a variety of skills. Peer providers need to be able not only to work in a strengths-based and empowerment-oriented manner with family members and/or young people, but they also need to actively promote youth- and family-driven collaboration in all aspects of Wraparound teamwork. Peer providers thus need training, coaching and supervision of the same quality and intensity as that provided for other key roles in Wraparound. Details about what this entails can be found in the

NWI's [consensus statement on training, coaching and supervision](#), and in the resources described in [Resource Sheet 1](#) earlier in this series. At the same time, the peer support role is qualitatively different from other provider roles, and requires training, supervision and organizational support that is role-specific.

Of course, engaging families and youth/young adults in Wraparound should not be solely the responsibility of the peer support providers. (And regrettably, many Wraparound programs do not have family and youth/young adult peer support available to all – or even any – participants.) Engaging youth and young adults in a meaningful way in Wraparound has proven to be a particular challenge, even when peer support is available. Skillful Wraparound practice involves the intentional and ongoing use of tools and strategies to promote engagement.

Resources Related to Engagement/Peer Support for Families/Youth

The [National Wraparound Initiative \(NWI\)](#) and its members and member organizations, including the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) and the [Research and Training Center for Pathways to Positive Futures \(Pathways RTC\)](#) have produced a number of resources that provide information focusing

on various aspects of implementation of family and youth/young adult peer support in Wraparound. These organizations have also developed information about strategies to increase youth engagement and participation in Wraparound.

Core Resources

Family Peer Support:

- » [Qualifications for Wraparound Family Partners: A Statement from the National Wraparound Initiative](#) [NWI 2013]
- » [Application of the Ten Principles of the Wraparound Process to the Role of Family Support Partners on Wraparound Teams](#) [NWI 2007]
- » [How Family Partners Contribute to the Phases and Activities of the Wraparound Process](#) [NWI 2010]
- » [Strategies to Assist Parent Peer Support Implementation in the Wraparound Workforce](#) [NWI/TA Network, 2015]

- » [A Dozen Mistakes in Using Family Partners in Wraparound](#) [NWI 2008]

Youth Peer Support:

- » [The AMP+ Skills Enhancement Training for Youth/Young Adult Peer Support Providers](#) [Pathways RTC 2018]
- » [What is Peer Support and What is NOT Peer Support](#) [Pathways RTC 2017]
- » [Implementing the Peer Support Specialist Role: Youth Peer Support in Wraparound](#) [Pathways RTC 2013]
- » [Defining, Supporting and Sustaining the Youth Peer Support Specialist Role](#) [Pathways RTC 2013]

Webinars

(To locate these webinar recordings and other resources, access the [archive](#) and scroll down to find the webinar by date – more recent webinars will appear at the top of the list):

- » Research-based Strategies for Increasing Youth and Young Adult Engagement in Wraparound – 03/29/2016 ([Slides](#))

- » Engaging and Involving Youth in Wraparound 2/22/2011 – ([Slides](#))
- » Family Partners in Wraparound: Who Are They and what Do They Do? 08/17/2010 – ([Slides](#))

Summaries of Evidence – Peer Support

- » [Peer Support for Youth and Young Adults who Experience Serious Mental Health Conditions: State of the Science](#) [Pathways RTC, 2018]
- » [Youth and Young Adult Peer Support: What Research Tells Us About its Effectiveness](#)

- » [in Mental Health Services](#) [Pathways RTC 2015]
- » [Family and Youth Peer Support Literature Review](#) [CHCS 2013]

Financial Considerations – Peer Support

- » [Becoming a Medicaid Provider of Family and Youth Peer Support: Considerations for Family Run Organizations](#) [CHCS, 2014]
- » [Medicaid Financing for Family and Youth Peer Support: A Scan of State Programs](#) [CHCS 2012]

Supporting Youth and Young Adult Engagement in Wraparound

- » [Increasing Youths’ Participation in Team-Based Treatment Planning: The Achieve My Plan Enhancement for Wraparound](#) [Peer-reviewed, randomized study, Pathways RTC 2017]
 - » [AMP’s Top Ten Tips for Engaging with Young People](#) [Pathways RTC 2016]
 - » [Youth Participation in Wraparound Team Planning: Why and How](#) [NWI 2008]
 - » [The Wraparound Process User’s Guide: A Handbook for Families](#) [NWI 2009] ([Guide in Spanish](#) [NWI 2010])
 - » [Tips for Team Meetings: A Guide for Youth](#) [Pathways RTC 2013]
 - » [“During Meetings I Can’t Stand It When”: A Guide for Facilitators and Team Members](#) [Pathways RTC 2013]
 - » [Best Practices for Increasing Meaningful Youth Participation in Collaborative Team Planning](#) [Pathways RTC 2007]
- Numerous additional resources can be accessed through the [NWI’s resource library by searching for “engagement.”](#)