



### *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 providers 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 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

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The [National Wraparound Initiative \(NWI\)](#) and its members and member organizations, the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS), the [Research and Training Center for Pathways to Positive Futures \(Pathways RTC\)](#), and their partners in the Technical Assistance Network have produced a number of resources that

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

## Core Resources

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### 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](#) [NWIC/TA Network, 2015]

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

### Youth Peer Support:

- » [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]
- » [Youth Advocates: What They Do and Why Your Wraparound Program Should Hire One](#) [NWI 2008]

## Webinars

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(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):

- » Engaging and Involving Youth in Wraparound [NWI 2011] ([Slides](#))
- » Family Partners in Wraparound: Who are they and what do they do? [NWI 2010] ([Slides](#))

## Summaries of Evidence – Peer Support

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- » [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

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- » [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

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- » [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.”](#)