

# Michigan Certified Peer Support Specialist Code of Ethics

The following Code of Ethics will guide Michigan Certified Peer Support Specialists in their various roles, relationships, and levels of responsibility in which they professionally perform.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will maintain high standards of professional conduct in a manner that fosters hope and recovery while practicing self-care.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will advocate and support for the full integration of individuals into the communities of their choice.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will improve their knowledge and skills through ongoing education and share that knowledge with colleagues and individuals they serve.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will value diversity, equity and inclusion and will not practice, condone, facilitate, or collaborate in any form of discrimination based on ethnicity, race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, disability, or any other preference or personal characteristic, condition, or state.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will respect the privacy of those they serve and will abide by State and Federal privacy and confidentiality laws.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will inform supervisor(s) or other members of the treatment team/agency immediately of any reported or suspected intent of serious harm to self or others or abuse from caregivers with those they serve.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will respect the rights and dignity of those they serve and shall not force any values or beliefs onto the person engaging in services.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will not pursue or engage in sexual or intimate relationships through the use of technology or in-person with individuals they serve, their relatives or others with whom they maintain a close personal relationship with.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will avoid relationships that conflict or create risk of harm in the best interest of individuals they serve. When dual relationships are unavoidable, it is the responsibility of the Certified Peer Support Specialist to seek supervisory consultation.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will not give, lend, borrow and/or accept gifts, of significant value, including financial transactions, from persons they serve.

## **Certified Peer Support Specialist Code of Ethics - Continued**

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will conduct themselves in a manner that fosters their own recovery and recognize the many ways in which they may influence peers and others in the community, as they serve as a role model.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will share relevant parts of their recovery story to provide hope at a time when it is beneficial to the person served.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will provide strength-based services acknowledging that every person has skills, gifts, and talents they can use to better their lives.

**Certified Peer Support Specialists** will provide support for those they serve through all stages of recovery.