State of Kansas
Certified Peer Support Specialist
Code of Ethics

Approved by the Kansas Adult MH Consumer Advisory Council.

CPSs will maintain high standards of professional conduct and ethics as embodied in the statements below:

1. CPSs will be guided by the principles of self-determination for all. The primary responsibility of CPS is to help individuals achieve their own needs, wants and goals.
2. Certified Peer Specialists will maintain high standards of personal conduct. Certified Peer Specialists will also conduct themselves in a manner that fosters their own recovery.
3. CPSs will share with consumers and colleagues their recovery stories from mental illness and will likewise be able to identify and describe the supports that promote their own recovery.
4. CPSs will respect the privacy and confidentiality of those they serve.
5. CPSs will at all times, respect the rights and dignity of those they serve.
6. CPSs will keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to recovery and share this knowledge with their colleagues and those they serve.
7. CPSs will never intimidate, threaten, harass, use undue influence, physical force or verbal abuse, or make unwarranted promises of benefits to the individuals they serve.
8. CPSs will never engage in exploitive and/or sexual/intimate activities with the persons they serve.
9. CPSs will not practice, condone, facilitate or collaborate in any form of discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical disability, or any other preference or personal characteristic, condition or state.
10. CPSs will advocate for those they serve that they may make their own decisions in all matters, including when dealing with other professionals.
11. CSPs will advocate for the full integration of individuals into the communities of their choice and will promote the inherent value of these individuals to those communities. CPSs will be directed by the knowledge that all individuals have the right to live in the least restrictive and least intrusive environment.
12. CPSs will not enter into commitments that conflict with the interests of those they serve.
13. CPSs will not exchange gifts of significant monetary value with those they serve.