

## **Working with People with Severe and Persistent/Enduring Mental Illness?**

### ***Five Ways to Achieve Better Outcomes Based on the Empirical Evidence***

**Provide Recovery-based services** (O’Keeffe, et al., 2018). Recovery based services incorporating whole-person constructs like empowerment, inclusion, and connection with desired life roles have shown the most robust relationships to client outcomes as compared to other models. Recovery based services entail equipping professionals with a specific conceptual and practical skill sets. Typical graduate level mental health counseling training may not address these conceptual or practical skills.

**Did you know?** The Certificate of Graduate Study in Psychiatric Rehabilitation (CGS-PSR) is a Recovery-based training program that focuses on the literature, case conceptualization and practical working skills that are vital to good Recovery-Based practice.

**Provide Recovery-based Case Management services** (Slade and Longden 2015). Recovery-based Case Management services are particularly important to those recovering from Mental Illness. A Recovery-oriented focus in Case Management and service acquisition and brokerage can sometimes be the difference between client retention and client loss. The data shows that people who feel as though the Case Management is Recovery-based tend to stick around. Those who do not...do not!

**Did you know?** The Certificate of Graduate Study in Psychiatric Rehabilitation has specific Recovery-driven content aimed at effective Care Coordination and Case Management. Students learn how to most effectively collaborate with clients to search for an obtain the services most important to the client’s recovery. The Program also offers a specific Case Management course, which students may choose as an elective to further enhance those skills.

**Provide client centered service and planning** (Greenfield et al. 2008). Adult clients do better when they are actively involved in the planning and choice of services, as well as the values and priorities of their own treatment and rehabilitation (Slade, 2009).

**Did you know?** In addition to the client-centered Care Coordination and Case Management skills mentioned above, which provides help with service selection, CGS-PSR students learn how to most effectively communicate with clients and to determine the values and life priorities of each individual. This is a vital skill set and avoids some of the more “cookie cutter” approaches common in the field.

**Provide systems-based training so that professionals can see gaps and opportunities for Recovery-based interventions** (Castillo, et. al. 2019). Another vital piece is equipping professionals with the systems-level analysis tools to spot the gaps in traditional services and the opportunities for Recovery-based interventions. CGS-PSR students are asked to engage in systems-level analysis through the program, emerging with skills that can be used right away in the professional context.

**Provide training to staff that incorporates the latest empirical data and equips students to provide high quality Recovery oriented service regardless of their basic graduate level training** (Davidson et. al, 2006, 2008). Specific and high quality training that equips participants with the skills need to conceptualize and deliver Recovery oriented services is a critical piece of the puzzle. CGS-PSR students get training in Fundamentals of Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Vocational Aspects of Psychiatric Rehabilitation, and Dual Diagnosis. Students have the opportunity to customize their training with the use of two elective graduate level, Recovery-oriented courses as well as a fully customized Independent Study that provides the opportunity to pull together the student's learning into a comprehensive capstone project steeped in the latest empirical and qualitative literature.

### **Where do I learn more?**

To learn more, contact:

Student Services Coordinator

Phone: 803-434-4296

Program Website:

[https://sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/medicine/education/graduate\\_programs/rehabilitation\\_counseling/psychiatric\\_rehabilitation/index.php](https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/medicine/education/graduate_programs/rehabilitation_counseling/psychiatric_rehabilitation/index.php)

### **References**

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