

**Wellness Peer Advocate
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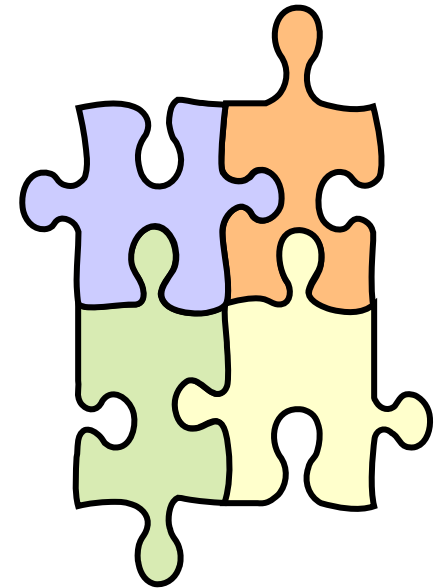
Our Wellness Center tree drawn by
volunteer Mark Jorgensen

Peer Advocate Services Information Guide

Arcadia Wellness Center
330 E. Live Oak
Arcadia CA 91006

Reception Desk (626) 821-5858

**Peer Advocate
Services
Information
Guide**



Peer Advocate Services Information Guide

August 13, 2008

What is a Peer Advocate?

- **Walked the Path**

The value of our story.

Able to share our experience with the mental health system.

- **Competent**

A peer advocate is someone who has been trained to assist.

Builds knowledge of benefit programs and services and how to best access them.

- **A voice**

Representing the concerns and needs of clients, while encouraging them to do the same.

Assisting in the organization and development of a true Client Council.



Peer Operated Programs and Services

- **Buddy System (Personal Assistant)**

Accompanying clients who want to go back to school, to apply for a job, to make a trip to the DMV, DPSS, or practically anywhere!

- **Transportation Workshops**

Easing the process of acquiring a disabled bus pass, answering any transit related questions, and providing bus trip “ride-alongs”.

- **Peer support**

Using skills such as motivational interviewing and reflective listening, while providing shared perspectives.

- **Lobby Assistance**

Greeting and answering questions regarding services while providing support for those waiting for appointments.

- **Groups & Clubs**

Hosting & facilitating groups like Problem Solvers, Coffee Club, Jewelry Club, and more

- **On The Spot Resource Linkage**

Connecting with resources in real time to ensure availability.



Please email us at jhall@dmh.lacounty.gov

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where does a Peer Advocate work?

A: In a Wellness Center, Client-Run and in the community.

Q: Who does a Wellness Center Serve?

A: Clients who have been in treatment, and are stable, or progressing, or looking to further their goals.

Q: What types of services does a Wellness Center offer?

A: Professional and peer operated services designed to assist the transition to independence and community involvement.

Q: How is a Wellness Center different than a “Client-Run Center”?

A: The term “client-run center” refers to a facility that features only peer operated services, such as groups.

Q: How is a Wellness Center different than a Mental Health Clinic?

A: Services and environment are not as intense. The goal of treatment at a Wellness Center is progress, not solely stability.