



# Emerging Behavioral Health Workforce Positions in Montana

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN

## FUNDAMENTALS OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

## COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

### REQUIREMENTS

Must identify as being in recovery from a behavioral health diagnosis and have sought treatment

None

Must be employed in a healthcare setting

High school diploma/GED preferred, have or gain computer literacy skills, employer sponsored preferred

### TRAINING & DELIVERY METHOD

40 hours of initial training + 20 CEUs per year, in-person only

15 college credits (450 hours), 90% online with an in-person MOAB training component

Approximately 80 hours of training (Six 10-hour online learning modules, with optional 20 hour in-person MOAB training)

Approximately 85 hours of training (four 15-hour learning modules, 25 on-the-job supervised experience), on-line and in-person options

### TRAINING COSTS

Six trainings in 2018 and 2019 **at no cost** due to grant funding, further trainings \$750 per person

Trainings through 2020 provided with **full tuition reimbursement** due to grant funding

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### ROLE

A BHPSS uses personal experience with a behavioral health diagnosis disorder to provide support, mentoring, guidance, and advocacy and to offer hope to individuals with behavioral health disorders

Those pursuing careers in nursing and allied health related fields to better understand and more effectively recognize and appropriately respond to behavioral health problems and mental health disorders

Those already working in healthcare field to better understand and more effectively recognize and appropriately respond to behavioral health problems and mental health disorders

Serves as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve quality and cultural competence of service delivery

### BENEFITS TO AGENCIES

Return on investment: i.e., \$5 to \$1 cost savings in diversion from high-cost services observed in Gallatin County.

Trained staff in behavioral health will increase retention and provide better patient outcomes

Higher trained staff in behavioral health will increase retention and provide better patient outcomes

Connect clients with needed resources; clients receive cost effective, individual services; reduces readmission rates

### WORK SETTINGS

Emergency rooms, detention centers, mental health centers, community at large, FQHC, SUD centers, VA, diversion and treatment courts

A variety of settings, including but not limited to: Emergency rooms, detention centers, mental health centers, community at large, CAH, FQHC, LTC and ALF

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A variety of settings, including but not limited to: hospitals, community-based organizations, government, and clinics

Montana's Peer Network  
[mtpeernetwork.org](http://mtpeernetwork.org)

Highlands College  
[www.mtech.edu](http://www.mtech.edu)

Montana AHEC  
[healthinfo.montana.edu](http://healthinfo.montana.edu)

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### TRAINING PROVIDERS

