

**STATE OF KANSAS**  
**CERTIFIED PEER SPECIALIST CODE OF ETHICS**

Certified Peer Specialists (CPS) will maintain high standards of professional conduct and ethics as embodied in the statements below:

1. CPS will be guided by the principles of self-determination for all. The primary responsibility of peer support is to help individuals achieve their own needs, wants and goals.
2. CPS will maintain high standards of personal conduct. Certified Peer Specialists will also conduct themselves in a manner that fosters their own recovery.
3. CPS will share their recovery stories from mental illness and will likewise be able to identify and describe the supports that promote their own recovery.
4. CPS will respect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals they serve.
5. CPS will always respect the rights and dignity of individuals they serve.
6. CPS will keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to recovery and share this knowledge with their colleagues and individuals they serve.
7. CPS 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. CPS will never engage in exploitive and/or sexual/intimate activities with the individuals they serve.
9. CPS 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. CPS will advocate for individuals to make their own decisions in all matters, including when dealing with other professionals.
11. CPS will advocate for the full integration of individuals into the communities of their choice and will promote the value and asset of diversity that individuals offer their communities. CPS will be directed by the knowledge that all individuals have the right to live in the least restrictive and least intrusive environment appropriate to their needs.
12. CPS will not enter into commitments that conflict with the interests of individuals they serve.
13. CPS will not exchange gifts of significant monetary value with individuals they serve.

I have read, understand, and commit to the preceding Ethical Standards.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_