

Recovering the Recovery Model Under the NDIS



Revision – What is recovery oriented practice?

- encourages self-determination and self-management of mental health and wellbeing
- involves tailored, personalised and strengths-based care that is responsive to people's unique strengths, circumstances, needs and preferences
- supports people to define their goals, wishes and aspirations
- involves a holistic approach that addresses a range of factors that impact on people's wellbeing, such as housing, education and employment, and family and social relationships
- supports people's social inclusion, community participation and citizenship.

Ref: Victorian Government Department of Health, Mental Health, Drugs and Regions Division. *Framework for Recovery Oriented Practice*. Melbourne. August 2011



Why we need to recover the recovery model

The NDIS service model has required a restructure of the workforce:

- Mobile workforce
- Lower classifications
- Less skilled in Mental Health
- Limited (or no) budget for PD, training, and supervision
- Challenge to keep mobile workers connected, upskilled and supported
- Challenge to upskill new workforce in recovery-oriented practice
- New job roles require a re-think of how recovery-oriented practice and principles apply



Pre-NDIS Workforce

- The MHCSS/Outreach team have been recruited on a minimum diploma level qualification.
- Title of Mental Health Practitioner.
- Manage a caseload of approximately 15 clients
- Responsible for setting their own regular, client appointments, developing individual recovery plans, assisting clients to work toward goals, liaising and/or advocating with clinical and non-clinical services, creating referrals, monitoring progress and maintaining required file records.



NDIS Workforce

- The set price guide under an NDIS model dictates that the Mental Health Practitioner role will be replaced with Support Workers who:
 - may have very limited (if any) mental health training
 - will be mostly a casual, shift-based workforce
 - rostered to their clients
 - have no input in the design of individual recovery planning
 - little if any, interaction with the clients other providers



The threat to recovery oriented practice

- Long term staff high attrition rates = loss of knowledge.
- In an NDIS service model:
 - Frontline workers need to spend 90+% of their time in face-face client activities.
 - Leaves only 10% of time for case-notes, supervision, team meetings, training, debriefing and other important activities that have historically formed a part of recovery focused work.



Organisational Responsibility to ROP

- Organisations have a responsibility to ensure they:
 - Embed recovery principles in practice
 - Include recovery principles in management processes including recruitment, professional development, appraisal, audit service planning and operational policies.
 - Incorporate recovery values and language throughout documentation/publications.
 - Balance duty of care and dignity of risk



Addressing the problem

- A working party was formed with representation from 8
 different organisations and one consumer consultant, to
 determine how we can best provide training, to ensure that
 staff are provided with adequate awareness of the
 Recovery Model Principles.
 - How recovery-oriented practice could be reframed in the new NDIS context?
 - How can we develop innovative ways of providing professional development for the new workforce?



The Mobile Learning Solution

- We were tasked with this project against the background knowledge that services; have no time available for training, no budgets for training, and a casual workforce that may never be in the office at the same time.
- The solution we developed uses the Mobile Learning Solution to deliver online Recovery training for staff.
- The aim is for this training to form an ongoing and integral piece of service induction for all new core and capacity staff working in psychosocial disability.

Contact



ph 03 5970 5000

fax 03 5970 5055

email info@mentisassist.org.au

web www.mentisassist.org.au

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