## Starting and Sustaining a Peer Support Program

## PATH to SUCCESS

**First step** starts with a question: Would a peer support program benefit employees and families in our organization?



Next, use info to <u>build buy-in</u> with leadership (especially address concerns re. liability, costs and confidentiality).



Once completed, submit to leadership: (a) copy of policy and (b) request to **implement program** and **allocate funds**.



Host basic <u>training</u> then provide new peer <u>orientation</u> -OR- provide new peer <u>orientation</u> then host basic <u>training</u>.



Conduct peer team <u>meetings</u> and offer opportunities for <u>continuing education</u> and ongoing development training.



If yes, then gather information re. peer support such as: services, limitations, liability, potential cost, benefits, etc.



After answered questions and addressed concerns, seek approval to **draft policy**.



After approved, <u>vet</u> and <u>select</u> peer candidates and training vendor.



As peers provide support, collect **stats** and report **outcomes** (while upholding confidentiality and protecting identifiable information).



Continue <u>recruiting</u>, <u>vetting</u> and <u>training</u> quality peers. As program grows, consider <u>train-trainer</u>.