



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

*PO Box 47890 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7890
Tel: 360-236-4030 • TTY Relay: 800-833-6384*

June 5, 2019

Keri Waterland
Assistant Director, DBHR
Health Care Authority
626 8th Avenue SE
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Keri,

I understand discussions between managers in our respective agencies have been occurring related to substance use disorder (SUD) peer support services. At this time, SUD peer support services is not an existing certification available through Department of Health (DOH) licensing and certification and, therefore, DOH would not require this certification to be reflected on a behavioral health agency license.

As you know, agencies must adhere to regulations for all employees to assure that these employees adhere to the staffing standards in Chapter 246-341 WAC such as background checks, annual trainings, signed confidentiality commitment statements, and TB screenings. If agencies do not follow those requirements, citations may be issued.

You are free to share this communication with behavioral health agencies that may be concerned with DOH's regulatory oversight. We look forward to an ongoing relationship with your agency as we address behavioral health issues affecting our communities.

Sincerely,

Kristin Peterson, Assistant Secretary
Health Systems Quality Assurance

cc: Ramiro Cantu, Department of Health
Trent Kelly, Department of Health