What is a Peer Recovery Specialist?

• Individual with lived experience
• Individual who has had experience with the criminal justice system
• Individual who can relate to both the participate and staff
• Individual who can be objective without compromising treatment or requirements
Obstacles to Overcome

- Mind set of BHTCC Court Team
- Peer Specialist’s feelings of intimidation
- Making feel part of BHTCC Court Team
- Acceptance from Participants
- Trust factor
- Confidentiality
- Hiring policy
Training of Peer Specialist

- Incorporate into position slowly
- Certification
- Confidentiality agreements
- On the job training
- Cross train
- Incorporate into learning criminal justice system
Recruitment of Peer Specialist

- Start with your BHTCC Court graduates
- Look at treatment facilities
- Network with other Adult Recovery Courts
Role of Peer Specialist

- Define roles early
- Peer Specialist role is to bridge the gap between criminal justice system and participant
- To earn the trust of participant
- To maintain a professional atmosphere
Future

• BHTCC Court Team’s need to understand more about addiction
• BHTCC Court Team’s need to be able to relate to participants
• BHTCC Team’s need to really provide “Second Chances” not just talk about them
• BHTCC Court Team’s need to think outside the box