NAPPP Benefits of Membership

Vision: Establishing a culture of people helping people.

Mission: The National Association of Peer Program Professionals helps adults establish, train, supervise, maintain, and evaluate peer programs.

          NAPPP’s mission is to help adults establish, train, supervise, maintain, and evaluate peer programs.  NAPPP is a national professional organization with recognized Standards and Ethics as guiding principles, effective programs, and proven evaluation protocols.  NAPPP supports peer program adults through networking, leadership training, certification, and programmatic problem solving.  NAPPP certification programs promote:  professional standards, practices, and ethics; self-assessment of program quality through use of the NAPPP Program Rubric; improved personal performance through continuing professional growth and development; professional training essential for effective peer program administration and/or operation; and professional contributions to the field.  NAPPP confers the following credentials: Certified Peer Program Educator (CPPE), Certified Peer Program (CPP), and Certified Organization with Peer Programs (COPP), Certified Peer Curriculum (CPC), and Certified Trainer/Consultant (CTC).

            The National Association of Peer Program Professionals (NAPPP) was established after the dissolution of The National Association of Peer Programs, originally founded in 1984 as the National Peer Helpers Association.  NAPPP is a member of the National Organization of Youth Serving (NOYS) agencies and a partner in other national endeavors, such as National Youth Service Day, National Youth Violence Prevention, Stop Bullying Now! Campaign, National Sleep Awareness, National Alliance to Prevent Underage Drinking, Screening for Mental Health, Afterschool Alliance, and Global Youth Justice.

            NAPPP invites you to join other Peer Program Professionals to receive these benefits of NAPPP membership:

·       Qualify for individual, program, and curriculum certifications, such as: Certified Peer Program Educator (CPPE), Certified Peer Program (CPP), Certified Organization with Peer Programs (COPP), Certified Peer Curriculum (CPC), and Certified Trainer/ Consultant (CTC).

·       Adhere to nationally recognized NAPPP Programmatic Standards, Ethics, and the Program Evaluation Rubric.

·       Have a voice in the national professional peer program movement.

·       Participate in peer program advocacy.

·       Enjoy opportunities for leadership, scholarship, and professional volunteer service.

·       Nurture professional development at national conferences and training institutes.

·       Establish mentor and mentee relationships at national conferences and training institutes.

·       Learn new or revitalize current training strategies at national conferences and training institutes.

·       Enjoy virtual and community based networking opportunities with peer program advocates and professionals throughout the world.

·       Keep connected through NAPPP social media:  website, Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, discussion groups, Google Hangout.

·       Receive Perspectives in Peer Programs, the peer reviewed journal emailed directly to all members.

·       Receive and contribute to the NAPPP Newsletter, emailed 9 months of the year.

·       Receive access to the members-only section of the NAPPP web site.

·       Receive material and book discounts at the NAPPP official Resource Center, YouthLight.org.

            30 years of comprehensive research and evaluation of peer programs which meet NAPPP Basic Standards and Ethics have shown that these programs provide proven and effective prevention and intervention strategies.

           NAPPP Certified Peer Programs offer supportive services by trained peers in diverse settings. The peer programs that NAPPP supports have various names such as peer helping, peer counseling, peer ministry, peer education, peer leadership, peer health education, peer mediation, peer tutoring, and peer mentoring.  Trained peer helpers are often young people who are trained and supervised by Peer Program Professionals and who adhere to the Ethics and Standards endorsed by helping professionals and NAPPP.  Trained peer helpers often serve as preventative agents who identify problems and then act as bridges to appropriate professionals.  Trained peer helpers provide learning, guidance, emotional support, and growth which lead to reduced drug and alcohol involvement, reduced HIV/STI transmission, reduced unintended pregnancy, reduced conflict, increased understanding of differences, increased academic achievement, and increased service to others.  By helping others, trained peer helpers increase their own self-esteem, self-confidence, and personal and interpersonal functioning.

             Properly structured peer programs are an extremely effective manifestation of people helping people.