

Organizing a Peer Support Network

The following suggestions may assist your organisation in establishing a peer support network:

1. Decide which staff will constitute a peer network. It is recommended that peer networks be kept to a maximum of six people.
2. Select a suitable venue and time (1 hour per week) for support.
3. Ensure audiovisual equipment is available.
4. Prepare multiple copies of any relevant materials.
5. Establish an agenda for the first session. This agenda should outline those practitioners who will be reviewing their work and who will facilitate the next session. The agenda for subsequent sessions should be set in the previous meeting.

Remind practitioners who are to review their work to bring along video/audio-taped examples of client contact (please note, client consent is required for this) or to prepare a brief case discussion

EXERCISE: *Organizing a peer support session*

Participants will plan when and where to hold their first peer support session.

Your task is to:

- Meet with peers who provide a potential peer support group.
- Consider when and where the first session might be organised.
- Write the time and place in your diary/scheduler and record the contact details for the participants you will be meeting.
