



OFA PeerTA Webinar: Providing Effective Employment and Supportive Services to Low-Income Women with Criminal Records

July 22, 2015 – 2 p.m. EDT

Follow-up Questions and Answers

Answers from Kelly Doyle, Oklahoma Director, Center for Employment Opportunities:

- 1. Based on your experience, what are some tips/suggestions for maintaining and/or increasing motivation for women who become frustrated with their Job Coach/Case Manager when resources available are not meeting the women's expectations?**

I would encourage staff to be trained in motivational interviewing. The techniques in motivational interviewing get at the root motivations of an individual that can be transferred to their current barriers.

- 2. What kinds of networking opportunities are available for coaches, case managers, and women themselves that can assist in locating long-term stabilizing services?**

This is going to vary based on location.

Answers from Julie Scrapchansky, STRIDE Program Director, Quinebaug Valley Community College:

- 1. Based on your experience, what are some tips/suggestions for maintaining and/or increasing motivation for women who become frustrated with their Job Coach/Case Manager when resources available are not meeting the women's expectations?**

Encourage the participant to advocate for themselves with the program. Meet with job coach or case manager to express frustrations. If needed, bring in the supervisor to act as middle man, have open honest discussions. Perhaps the program is not a good fit, and the participant can look for another program that will fit their particular needs with the open, honest assistance of the present job coach or case manager.

- 2. What kinds of networking opportunities are available for coaches, case managers, and women themselves that can assist in locating long-term stabilizing services?**

Networking opportunities in the community: Statewide roundtables — job coaches or case managers should attend to participate and attain vital information for participants. We have 5 in Connecticut. Anyone can reach out to the roundtables and obtain further information, as each roundtable is a plethora of information. All are welcome to attend these meetings, as well as participants.