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NASMHPD Research Institute





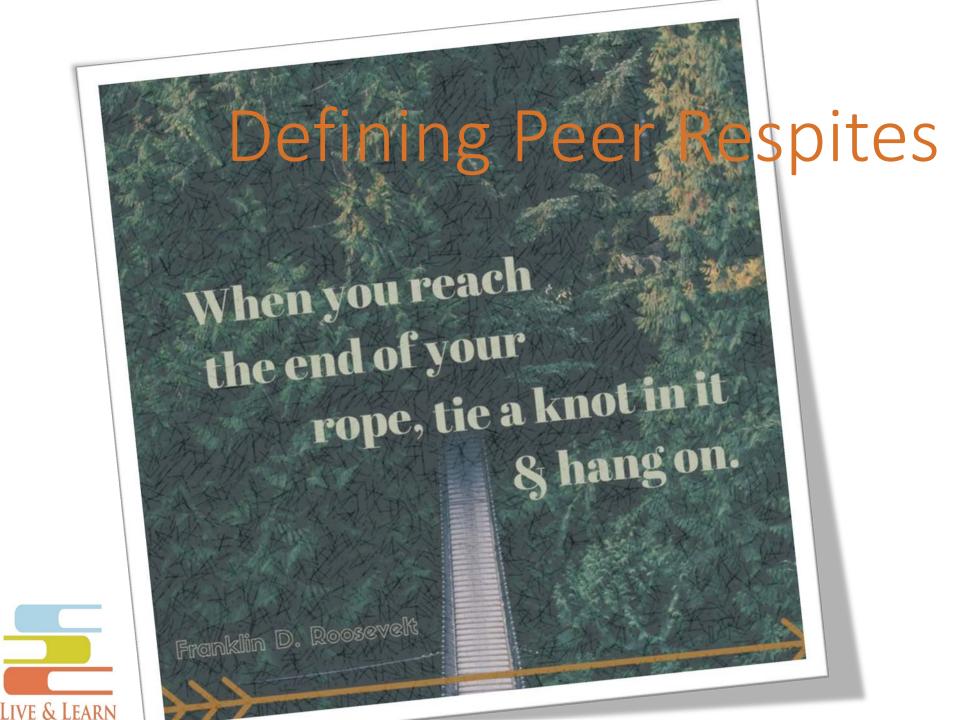
# Outline

I. Defining peer support in peer respites: What, How, Why?

II. Nationwide characteristics of peer respites

III. Example: 2<sup>nd</sup> Story, Santa Cruz





### Peer Support



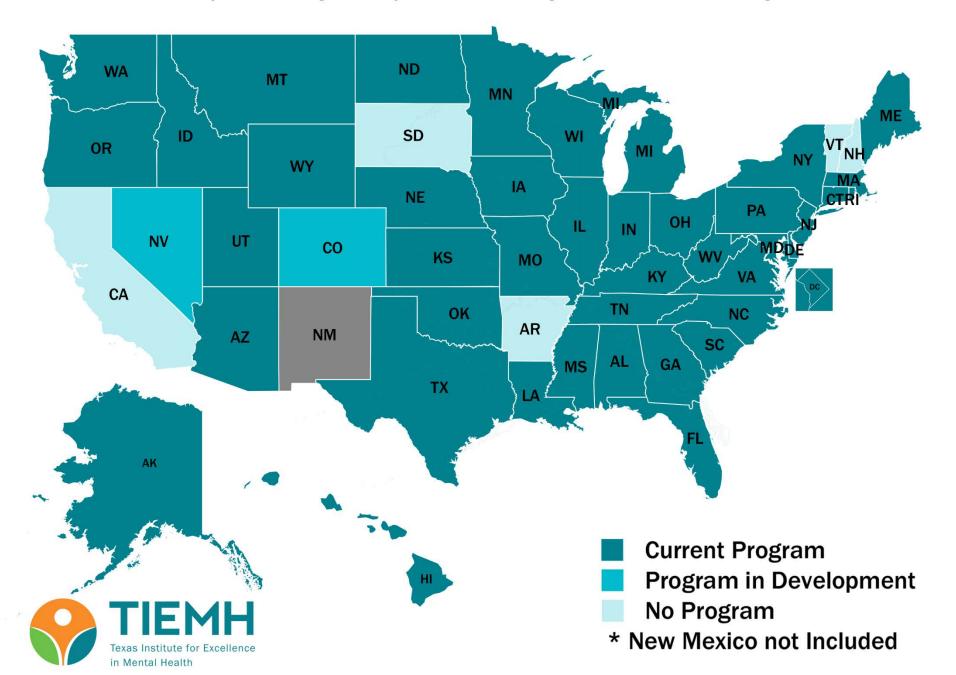
People with lived experience creating mutual relationships based on respect, shared responsibility, and agreement of what is helpful





Increasing attention nationally and locally on implementing, evaluating, and regulating peer support practices

### **Map of Existing Peer Specialist Training and Certification Programs**



### Peer Support Context

Peer support and peer specialists are a way to increase system and workforce capacity

Consistent findings that peer support contributes to reductions in emergency services use

Reimbursement mechanisms can risk medicalizing peer support and may compromise social justice advocacy



## Why are there peer respites?

Psychiatric emergency services...

traumatizing and counter-therapeutic, do not build capacity to avert future psychiatric crises

internalized and social stigma, disruptions in relationships, and loss of meaningful opportunities

can be avoided if less coercive or intrusive supports are available in the community



### What are peer respites?

voluntary, short-term, overnight programs in a homelike environment

provide community-based, trauma-informed, and person-centered crisis support and prevention

Staffed, <u>operated</u>, <u>and overseen</u> by people with lived experience of the mental health system (peers)



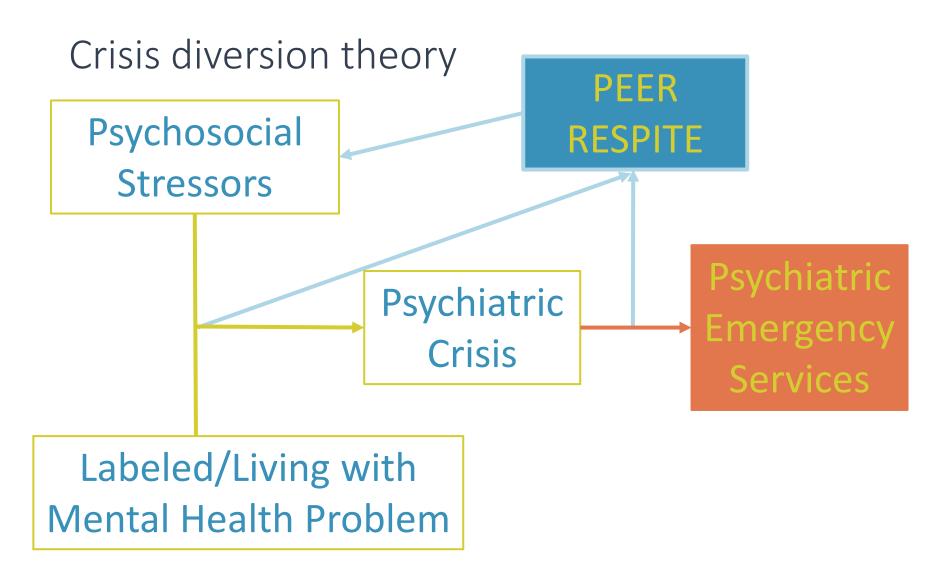
### How do peer respites work?

support guests through trusting relationships when experiencing or at-risk of experiencing a crisis

foster relationships in which individuals help themselves and others through mutual support

engage in advocacy to empower people to participate in and strengthen communities

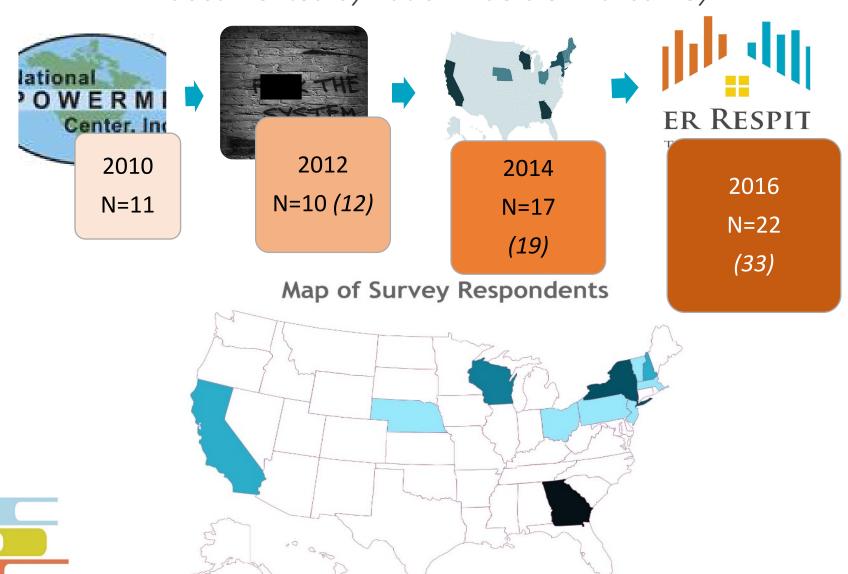






## Peer Respite Growth

documented by nationwide biennial survey



**Number of Responding** 

Peer Respites

## Minimum criteria defined by consensus panel

### **Staffing**

• 100% of staff have lived experience of extreme states and/or the behavioral health system

### Leadership

• All leaders have lived experience, and the job descriptions require lived experience of extreme states and/or the behavioral health system

#### Governance

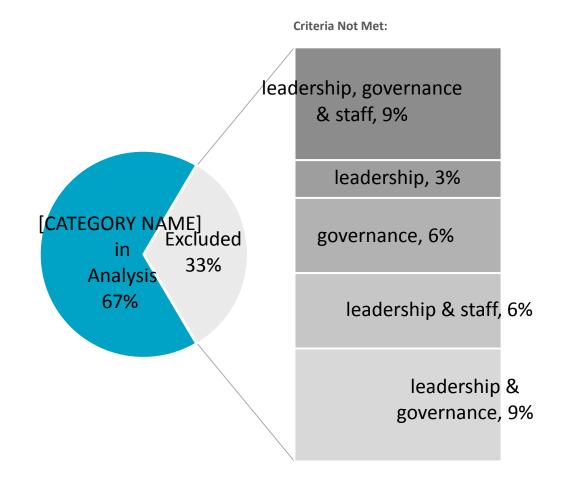
• The peer respite is either operated by a peer-run organization OR has an advisory group with 51% or more members having lived experience of extreme states and/or the behavioral health system

### Consensus panel members:

Darby Penney, The Community Consortium
Sera Davidow, Western Massachusetts Recovery Learning Community
Chris Hansen, Intentional Peer Support
Sally Zinman, California Association of Mental Health Peer-Run Organizations
Bevin Croft, Human Services Research Institute
Laysha Ostrow, Live & Learn

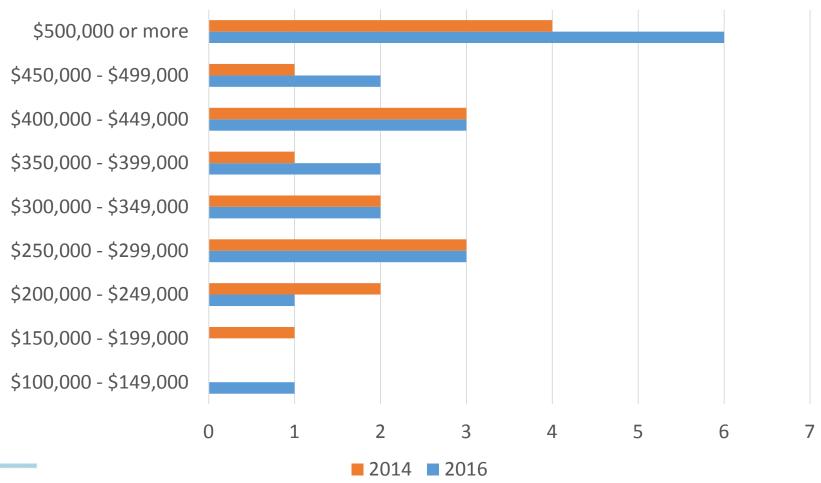


# Peer Respite Essential Features Respondents N=22 out of 33 total responses



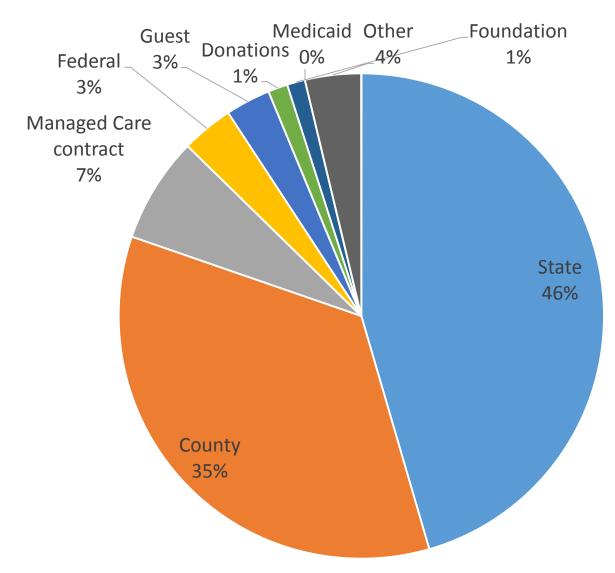


### Annual operating budgets





### Proportion of funding from each source



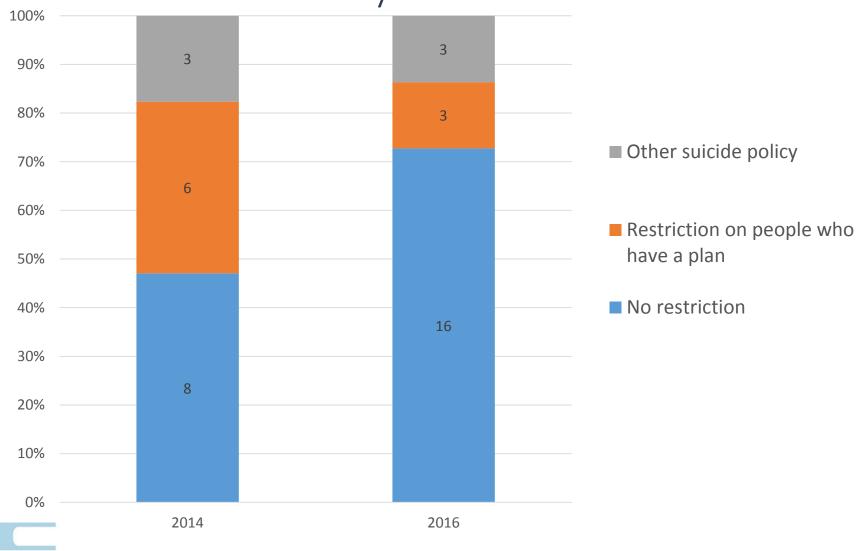


## Training of peer respite staff





Policy on suicide





### For more information...

### Visit www.PeerRespite.net for:

- Directory of peer respites
- Compilation of research studies
- Resources to start and sustain peer respites
- **Fvaluation** assistance



**ACTION & EVALUATION** 

www.PeerRespite.net



#### Manuals with Guidance on Starting and Sustaining a Peer Respite



#### PEOPLe, Inc.

Manual on Assisting in the Development of a Respite/Diversion Service in Your



#### SAMHSA

Crisis Services: Effectiveness, CostEffectiveness, and Funding Strategies



#### Live & Learn/HSRI

Toolkit for Evaluating Peer Respites



#### Crisis Hostel Project, Ithaca NY

Crisis Hostel User Policy and Procedure Manual.

Getting started









2<sup>nd</sup> Story Peer Respite House Santa Cruz, CA

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Story Respite House, est. 2010



Funded by SAMHSA
Transformation Grant,
administered through a
community-based mental
health organization,
overseen by County
behavioral health
department, evaluated by
HSRI





# Who used the respite?

209 unique guests between May 2011 and December 2014

- Many repeat visits
  - Guests stayed an average of 3 times
  - 209 guests (41%) stayed once, and 25 guests (5%) stayed ten or more times
- Length of stay varied
  - Ranged from 1 to 52 days
  - Average length of stay was 10 days
  - Most visits were 13 days





### **Evaluation Results**

### Likelihood of PES use

Respite guests were 70% less likely to use inpatient and emergency services

But likelihood of PES use increased with each additional day of respite stay

Hours in PES

Respite days were associated with significantly fewer inpatient and emergency service hours

But the longer the stay, the more PES hours the guests were likely to use

Croft B & Isvan N: Impact of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Story Peer Respite Program on Inpatient and Emergency Service Use. Psychiatric Services: available online first at http://ps.psychiatryonline.org/doi/abs/10.1176/appi.ps.201400266





## After the MHTG Grant: 2<sup>nd</sup> Story Currently

Funded by Santa Cruz County via Mental Health Services Act since the end of the SAMHSA funding

California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA) 2015 Peer Respite Care Grant Program provided \$ for capital investments

Santa Cruz purchased a house for 2<sup>nd</sup> Story; expands services from 6 overnight guests to 8



## Introducing Medi-Cal: Future of 2<sup>nd</sup> Story

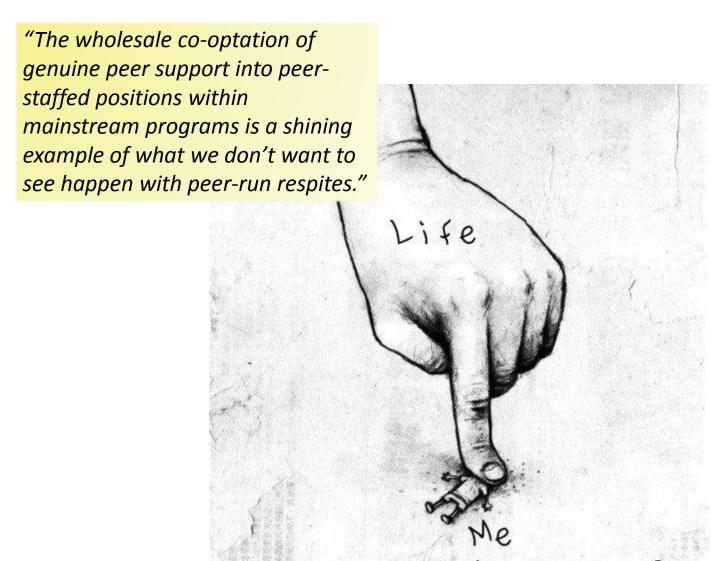
Consequences of the service expansion are that 2<sup>nd</sup> Story must become a licensed facility

Community Residential Treatment System (CRTS) aka Social Rehabilitation Program (SRP)

Additional licensed clinical case managers will be added to the program

MHSA \$ will continue to be used to pay for peer support workers







No peer specialist certification in California!!!

### Lessons Learned

Peer respites operate on a continuum of control and management by people with lived experience

Evidence for effectiveness is limited to the point in time that corresponds to program features

Reimbursement strategies have the power to substantially change program approach

State officials and consumer stakeholders need to work together to implement financing options that support the goals of peer support



### Consider...

How does the evolution of policy and program design impact sustainability?

What unique and non-redundant contributions does peer support bring to our communities?

Without fidelity standards, what exactly are we fighting for?

Where do we go from here if we want to preserve this vision?



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**ACTION & EVALUATION** 

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