

January 30, 2013 Addictions and Mental Health Division (AMH)

Terms defined in House Bill 3650 (HB 3650-C)

(4) **“Community health worker”** means an individual who:

- (a) Has expertise or experience in public health;
- (b) Works in an urban or rural community, either for pay or as a volunteer in association with a local health care system;
- (c) To the extent practicable, shares ethnicity, language, socioeconomic status and life experiences with the residents of the community where the worker serves;
- (d) Assists members of the community to improve their health and increases the capacity of the community to meet the health care needs of its residents and achieve wellness;
- (e) Provides health education and information that is culturally appropriate to the individuals being served;
- (f) Assists community residents in receiving the care they need;
- (g) May give peer counseling and guidance on health behaviors; and
- (h) May provide direct services such as first aid or blood pressure screening.

(14) **“Peer wellness specialist”** means an individual who is responsible for assessing mental health service and support needs of the individual’s peers through community outreach, assisting individuals with access to available services and resources, addressing barriers to services and providing education and information about available resources and mental health issues in order to reduce stigmas and discrimination toward consumers of mental health services and to provide direct services to assist individuals in creating and maintaining recovery, health and wellness.

(16) **“Personal health navigator”** means an individual who provides information, assistance, tools and support to enable a patient to make the best health care decisions in the patient’s particular circumstances and in light of the patient’s needs, lifestyle, combination of conditions and desired outcomes.

Dictionary Definition of Peer

1. A person of the same legal status: *a jury of one's peers.*
2. A person who is equal to another in abilities, qualifications, age, background, and social status.
3. Something of equal worth or quality: *a sky-scraper without peer.*
4. A nobleman.
5. A member of any of the five degrees of the nobility in Great Britain and Ireland (duke, marquis, earl, viscount, and baron).