Certified Health Practitioners

	Community Health Worker (CHW)	Peer Specialist (CPS)	Youth Peer Support (Y-CPS)	Family Peer Support (FPS)	Perinatal Doulas
Practice Framework	Public health focused, addressing systemic and social health factors. Also known as outreach worker, patient navigator, promotores de salud	Recovery oriented, emphasizing lived experience, mutuality, and empowerment	Recovery oriented, emphasizing lived experience, mutuality, and empowerment	Family driven care, emphasizing self-advocacy, navigating systems, and resources	Non-medical caregivers who offer physical, emotional, and informational support to expectant individuals and their partners
Lived Experience	Trusted member of the community ty by ethnicity, language, and/or culture	Living well with or in recovery from a mental health condition	Living well with or in recovery from a mental health condition	Parent or caregiver of a child experiencing mental health challenges	Trusted member of the community by ethnicity, language, and/or culture
Core Services	Health Education, care navigation, disease prevention, community assessments	Emotional support, wellness planning, self-determination support, crisis support	Emotional support, wellness planning, self-determination support, crisis support	Bring voice to service delivery, planning, and evaluation process	Emotional, physical, and informational support and guidance during the perinatal period and 12 months post-partum
People Served	Serve underserved populations facing barriers to healthcare access and social services	Support individuals with mental health challenges in their recovery journey	Support youth age 14-17 with mental health challenges in their recovery journey	Support parents and caregivers of individuals with mental health challenges across the lifespan	Serve individuals in the perinatal period through 12 months post-partum
Training	Health literacy, disease management, community engagement	Recovery support, mentoring, relationship building	Recovery support, mentoring, relationship building	Resiliency and wellness, effecting change	Anatomy and physiology related to childbearing and lactation, strategies for emotional support, education, and resources, communication with healthcare providers
PA Certified	Yes	Yes	As a CPS with youth training by Youth MOVE	As a CPS only, National Certification available	Yes
PA Medicaid reimburse-ment	No	Yes	Yes, over age 14	In Lieu of Services	Yes as of 1/1/2025
How PA can optimize	State Plan Amendment for Medicaid reimbursement Recognize additional certifications for: maternal health, infant and early childhood mental health (IECMH), and youth mental health literacy	PA endorsement to serve perinatal and postpartum maternal mental health	PA endorsement for youth and young adult Remove age limit for youth peer support, DHS guidance on Y-CPS in schools Expand services based on EPSDT to be pre-diagnosis and include social skills building, mentoring, and respite	DHS guidance on programmatic use of Family Peer Support PA certification Expand services based on EPSDT to be pre-diagnosis and include social skills building, mentoring, and respite	Use with IECMH programs with infants Require inclusion in all MCO contracts with access standards Disaggregated Metrics by county, rural, and urban areas
Citation	n/a	OMHSAS-24-05	OMHSAS-16-12, OMHSAS-19-05	n/a	MAB 09-25-33 10-25-01 11-25-33 13-25-01 16- 25-01 31-25-33 33-25-33