PEER ADVOCACY FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH



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Methods

the unions' reactions to the opioid crisis and specifc interventions, particularly peer advocacy. (see

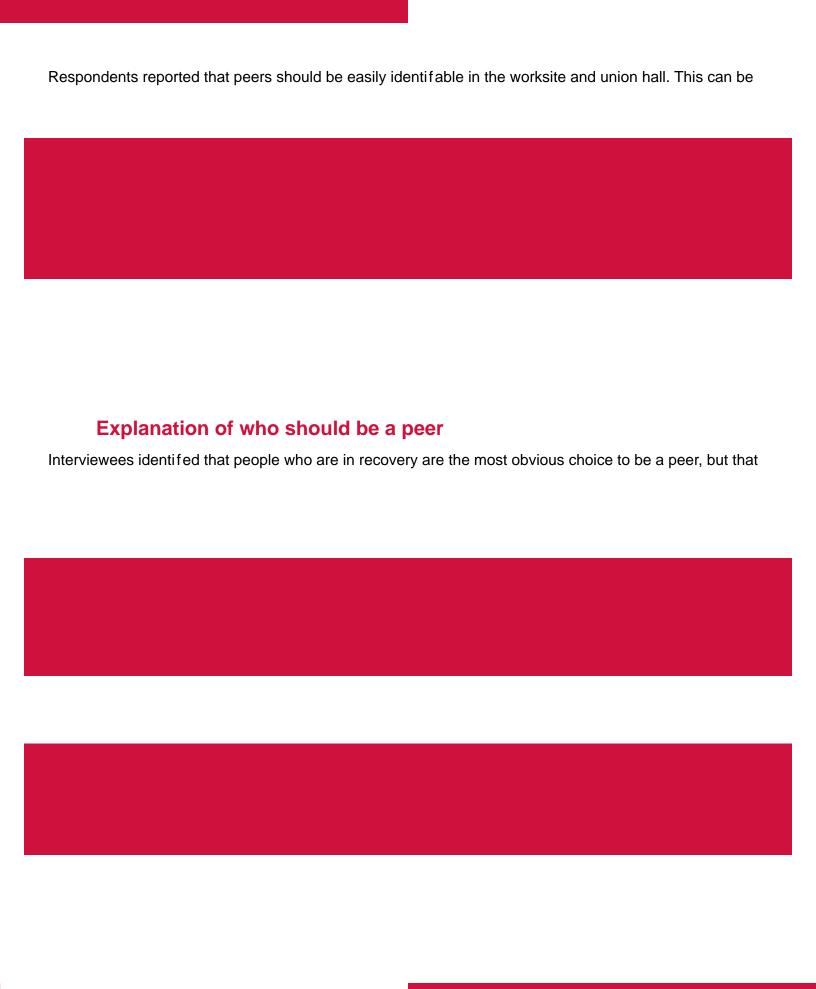
Results

Explanation of Peer Advocacy

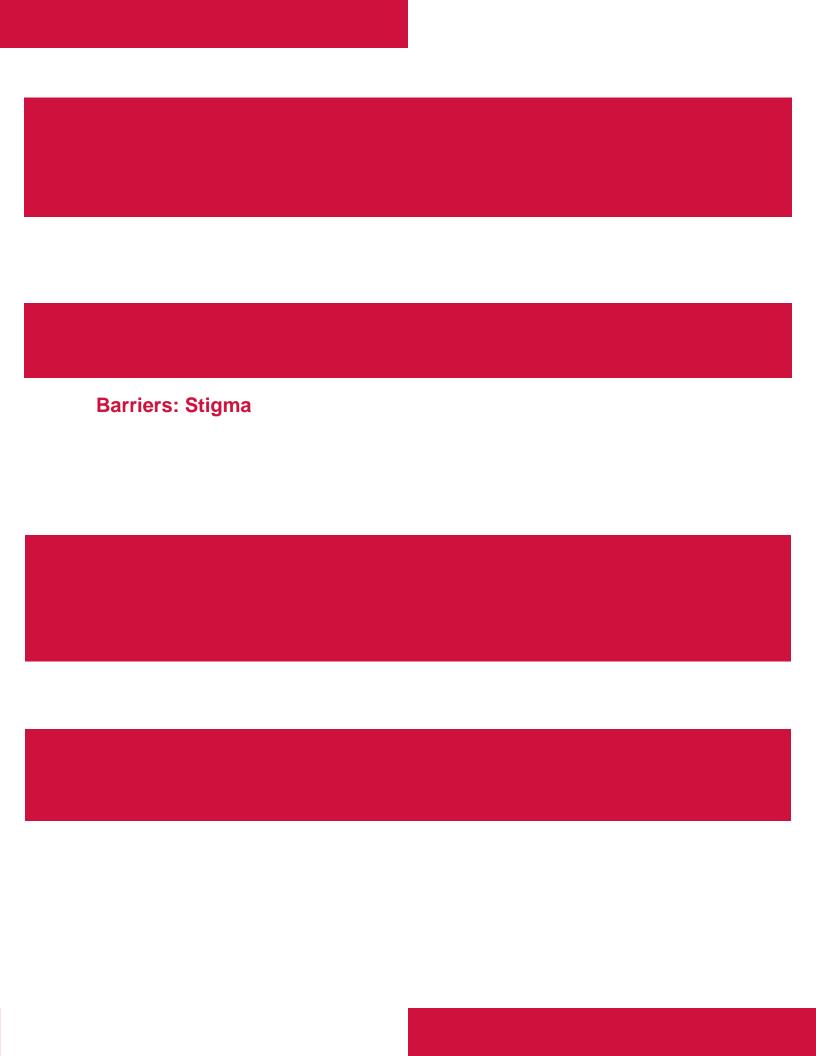
Key informants described peer advocacy as a very wide set of services, or a specific narrow set of

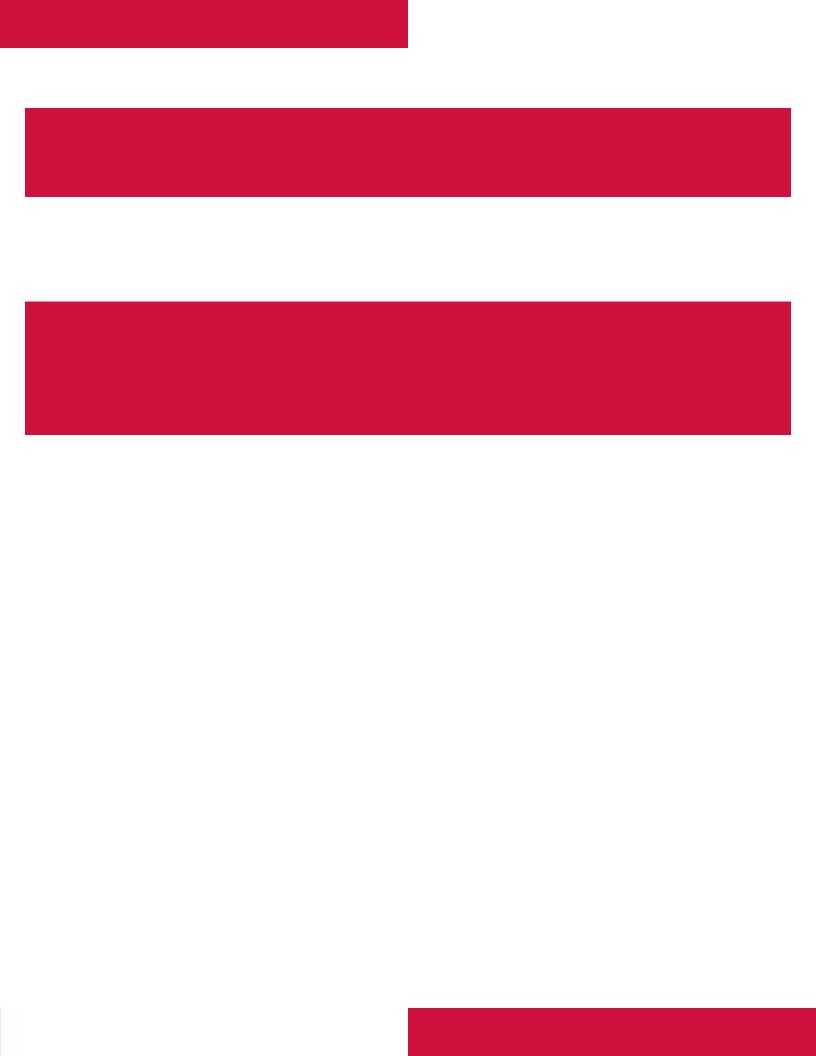
Peers are paid by the union or beneft fund and work for a "Member Assistance Program" or "Employee received some training and some have received certifications in providing peer support.

but that it is not the rule. What defines them as a "peer" is that they are a fellow union member in the said that peers are considered to be "frst responders" or "frst aid" for mental health and SUDs. Nearly all

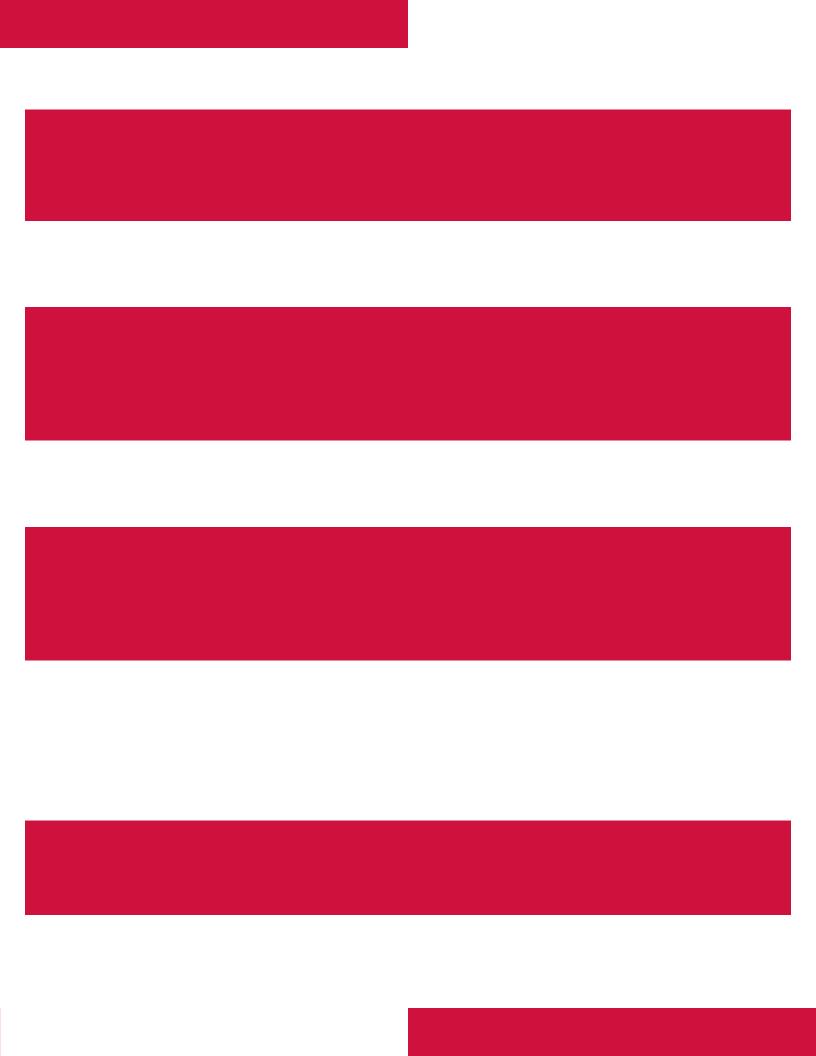


Barriers: Insurance
Several interviewees mentioned that insurance benefts and the way in which benefts are structured
to work while being treated, an individual can lose health benefts. The example given was that there are
enough to keep benefts administered by their multi-employer fund, including health care. These members

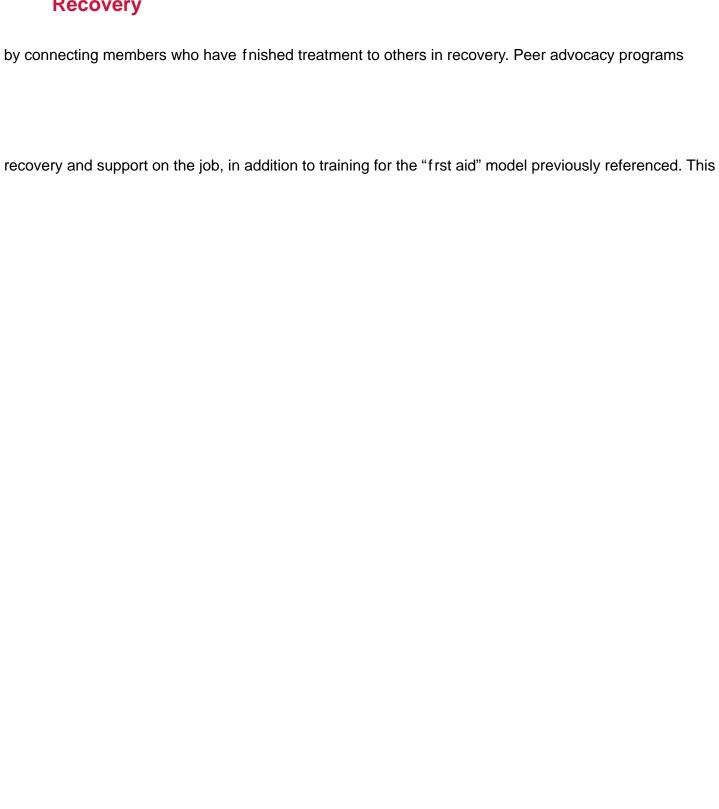








Recovery



most programs. For these program	ns, peers are peer-workers frs	it.
programs were described as need	ling fexibility and adaptability t	o help the programs navigate the

Conclusion

eferences	
Relief Services in New York City. T	The New York State Offce of Mental Health / Project Liberty; 200
Tracy K, Wallace SP. Benefts of p	peer support groups in the treatment of addiction. Substance Abo

Appendix

Appendix			
A.	Interview Instrument		
	How have your union and union benefts funds supported workers seeking to access treatment for		
	How have these beneft programs changed in recent years?		
	What have been the challenges of fnding resources to support these programs and how have		
	what have been the challenges of maing resources to support these programs and now have		

In what ways does any union-sponsored managed ca	are, benefts fund, comp management or
In what ways does any union-sponsored managed ca	re, benefts fund, comp management or
Does your international have any return to work altern	natives/modifed duty programs? In place

	Is there a Pharmacy Beneft Management Program? In place/ in development/ none
	Would you be willing to feld a detailed survey to your locals, health funds, and/or training
B. L	ist of Interviewees
Kevin By	yrnes, Ironworkers International Chief of Staff and Jim Duffcy, Ironworker Locals 40, 361 & 417

