

**Unit 2** is a practical road map introducing the role of the peer supporter within an organization. It accommodates for those organizations who have no previous experience working with peer supporters and for those that do have it, food for thought for the challenges faced but also the opportunity to share best practices.

One of the challenging topics you may come across is directly linked with the organizational culture.

How open is the staff to new ideas?

How do the professionals perceive their role and responsibility in relation to peer support?

Allowing meaningful participation of the peer supporters includes their participation throughout the decision-making process in a constructive way. It prevents peer supporters' burnout, rewards their contribution in a meaningful way, enables to maximize the transformational power of their lived experience not only for the benefit of the clients but for the benefit of the professionals as well. What is your opinion about it? What would you suggest, based on your experience (if any)?





Challenges and the impact of peer support is studied intensively over the last years and there is increasing data available on best practices and the challenges when including peer support as part of the intervention. At Unit 2 is provided State-of-the-Art Review” (2019) an analytical peer review with a collection of studies in several sectors. Have a look if you need to dig more! It is under the section 2.4 Further Reading!



## How to engage peer supporters meaningfully?

There is a range of interactive activities to use around the concept of stereotype/diversity and perceptions (personal and social).

- Challenge what you consider self-understood/normal/acceptable.
- Share the structure of your organization and the concrete steps that the decision-making process follows.
- Follow the case scenario where you introduce a new idea: whom should you convince? How?



[Listen to a story and tips from the other side of the Atlantic at the links below](#)

[Leveraging The Lived Experience Of Peer Support Staff](#)

[Peer Support Can Solve Homelessness with Brian Ulf](#)