

Bulletin



Peer Volunteer Program

General Manager

Bulletin #2021-232
September 08, 2021

PEER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM A Message from the General Manager and Chief Engineer

Date: September 8, 2021

The challenges of 2020 through 2021 have brought on a significant increase in mental health issues and substance abuse across the nation. At LADWP, we acknowledge the impact of this problem on our employees and their families. I want to take this opportunity to highlight the Peer Volunteer Program (PVP) as a resource available to employees.

The PVP is a collaborative effort between the LADWP and IBEW Local 18, developed to provide assistance, support, and resources to employees and their families struggling with substance abuse and addiction. The program is funded through the Joint Safety and Training Institute (JSTI). It is free to all employees as well as family members, and it is utilized by “self-referrals” only.

The program’s Peer Volunteers are LADWP employees in long-term recovery, who are trained to assist their fellow employees seeking help for themselves or family members. They are available around-the-clock to provide confidential guidance and support. The Peer Volunteers are not licensed medical professionals, but they have 24/7 access to counselors including certified mental health and addiction specialists. In addition, the Peer Volunteers can offer information about resources including EAP referrals and treatment programs.

To increase awareness of the PVP, posters are now available for LADWP facilities and work locations. Information on the program can easily be accessed by using the QR code on these posters or by visiting www.ladwpcares.org or www.local18cares.org. The poster options and the ordering instructions can be found on the attachment. The JSTI has also produced a video explaining the benefits of the program. To watch, click [here](#) or point your mobile phone camera to this QR code.



If you are dealing with substance abuse and addiction, help is available. The PVP is here to provide additional support and assistance as we navigate through these challenging times. For questions regarding the program or if you are interested in becoming a Peer Volunteer, please contact the PVP/JSTI Administrators Katie Zordilla at (818) 771-4694 or Jeff King at (818) 771-4676.



Martin L. Adams
General Manager and Chief Engineer

