

BRSS TACS

Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER STRATEGY

Jamie Bailey works as a peer recovery support specialist for Project Vida, which is a fully integrated federally qualified health care clinic located in El Paso, Texas. A border town, El Paso has a predominately Hispanic and bilingual population. Ms. Bailey provides services in both Spanish and English, primarily serving individuals with substance use disorder and co-occurring mental and substance use disorders. She works with Project Vida physicians, counselors, psychiatrists, and psychiatric nurse practitioners to address each individual's total health needs.

Ms. Bailey also provides peer support services to middle and high school students from nine local schools. These students have self-disclosed that they are experiencing concerns about using drugs or alcohol. As a peer recovery support specialist, she approaches each individual with a recovery-oriented, reality-centered conversation about her status in long-term recovery and uses motivational interviewing (MI) techniques to move that person along stages of change. She is receiving advanced training in MI using culturally responsive interventions for Spanish-speaking people. Ms. Bailey previously worked for Project Esteem, a court program that helps sex-trafficking survivors and sex workers who had substance use problems.