

## **Medi-Cal Peer Certification Stakeholder Advisory Council Member**

### **Roberto Roman | Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services**

Roberto Roman's journey of recovery from mental health challenges began as a transition age youth in the mid 1990's. Emerging from trauma that included the premature deaths of his parents, he received public mental health services for 15 years before graduating as valedictorian in 2010 from Contra Costa County's Service Provider Individualized Recovery Intensive Training (SPIRIT) program. Since shortly thereafter, he has worked as a Community Support Worker in the Office for Consumer Empowerment, an administrative unit of Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services dedicated to promoting the peer voice as a transformative force in the system of care. Roberto's duties include facilitating monthly community engagement meetings focused on stigma and discrimination reduction and promoting cultural responsiveness. Roberto supports community program planning as a member of the Contra Costa County Mental Health Services Act Consolidated Planning and Advisory Workgroup. Emphasizing the vital role of faith and spirituality in his recovery, he strives to foster openness to the many pathways of wellness available to peers today.