

Position Title: Peer Support Specialist

Status: Full-time.

Position Summary

The Peer Support Specialist will help remove personal and environmental obstacles to recovery, links the newly recovering person to the recovering community, and serves as a navigator and mentor in the management of personal and family recovery.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide education and support to families, adolescents and adults with mental health or substance use challenges to negotiate their way through the social, legal, educational and health care systems.
- Facilitate a process for individuals and families to develop a plan to: clarify the problem(s); provide emotional support; identify needs and strengths; and identify resources including appropriate levels of services, entitlements, community resources and other natural supports.
- Assist families and individuals to create support network and ensure that their goals are integrated into treatment plan, as necessary.
- Facilitate families and individuals in accessing supports and services by sharing information about resources and supports; making phone calls; providing guidance in completing forms and applications; empowering patients and families to effectively articulate their concerns and needs; accompanying families to meetings; and educating families on laws, policies and procedures.
- Ensure that individuals (and families when appropriate) are equal partners in planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating their own plans.
- Partner with other staff to serve individuals and families with complex needs.
- Administrative duties to include maintaining client files, submitting required documentation, active participation in training opportunities.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications & Skills

- Requires a high school degree or recognized equivalent (GED).
- Requires lived experience with substance use challenges.
- Self-identify as being in recovery for at least one year.
- Involved with a personal support and/or recovery system and reside in stable housing.
- Have no legal involvement within the last one year and/or pending legal issues.
- Have no intensive behavioral health treatment involvement within the last one year, including intensive services, crisis stabilization/detoxification services, residential treatment services and/or psychiatric hospitalization.
- Willingness and strong ability to build and maintain partnerships with agencies and providers.
- Active listening skills for providing peer support and engagement to families.