

Brooklyn, New York – Peer Specialist

How to Apply- <https://chm.tbe.taleo.net/chm04/ats/careers/requisition.jsp?org=JEWIBOAR&cws=1&rid=1303>

Description/ Qualifications:

The CoD Peer Advocacy Program serves individuals with co-occurring disorders of serious mental illness and substance abuse. The program will increase the capacity of individuals with co-occurring disorders (CoD) to manage their health and wellness, live a self-directed life and reach their fullest potential by providing self-directed recovery services. The program will offer the availability of services (direct or indirect) pertaining to mental health and substance use issues. Peer Specialists will provide advocacy services and facilitate various groups including recovery and psycho-education. These groups are designed to assist individuals to become and remain substance free and achieve their rehabilitation goals in various areas including education, employment, socialization and housing. If requested, Peer Specialists give feedback on individuals' progress and struggles with sobriety, which are incorporated in Wellness Recovery Action Plans and individual service plans.

PURPOSE:

To facilitate groups for participants with co-occurring disorders to support their decrease in substance use and decrease/cessation of cigarette smoking per their self-report; increase their access to community resources; support participants to develop a WRAP plan to maintain their mental health. Serve as a role model and advocate in the areas of entitlements, self-advocacy and empowerment, daily activities, housing and employment.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide concrete service delivery to clients (i.e. benefits/entitlements), as per program needs.
- Lead and co-leads a variety of recovery group, especially on issues of self-advocacy, entitlements and daily living activities, housing issues and employment readiness.
- Communicate with collaterals and other agency staff on behalf of clients to assist case management staff as needed.
- Participate in team meetings, supervision and discharge planning discussion.
- Appropriately document groups and program activities on forms provided by Program Management.
- Assists in various duties (as needed) for the program
- Maintain resource materials on recovery for client use.
- Train consumers in peer advocacy skills.
- May be assigned other tasks and duties reasonably related to their job responsibilities.

Skills and/or Experience Required:

- Relevant life experience preferred.
- Familiarity with NYS Entitlements, Housing and Mental Health Service Delivery System.
- Basic computer skills a plus.

Communication Skills:

- Ability to articulate the company's philosophy, mission and goals to a varied audience.
- Ability to author and to present effective and persuasive speeches and presentations to various groups including clients, management and employees.
- Ability to respond to inquiries or complaints, including those of a sensitive and confidential nature, from any of the following, if applicable, under a variety of circumstances, including adversarial situations: clients, consumers, managers, employees, regulatory agencies, arbitrators, union representatives, vendors, or applicants.
- Ability to effectively present information to clients, top management and staff in verbal and written formats.

Mathematical Skills:

- Ability to perform basic mathematical skills such as addition, subtraction, division and multiplication.

Reasoning Skills:

- Ability to define problems, collect data, establish facts and draw valid conclusions.
- Ability to work within general guidelines and minimal supervision.
- Ability to organize, prioritize and execute responsibilities in the face of conflicting priorities or unexpected situations.
- Ability to recognize the need for confidentiality of information and to maintain such confidences.

Physical Demands:

- Regularly required to speak clearly and hear the spoken word well.
- Regularly required to physically operate routine office equipment such as telephones, computers, etc.
- Regularly required to travel to sites in and outside the company using customary modes of public transportation.
- Regularly required to utilize near vision ability and to read data and documents, including spreadsheets and reports, in printed form and on computer screens.

Work Environment:

- Noise level is consistent with levels usually present in an office, education, rehabilitation, industrial, workshop or health related environment.
- Hazards present are consistent with those common to an office, education, rehabilitation, industrial, workshop or health related environment

REQUIREMENTS:

High School Diploma, GED or some post-secondary education preferred, as is experience with a similar population in a community setting. **NY Peer Specialist certification is required.**

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