

Schenectady, New York

Peer Specialist – ACT Team Part Time

Mohawk Opportunities, Inc.

Mohawk Opportunities is committed to helping individuals living with Mental Illness, HIV/AIDS and those who are homeless achieve stable community living and independence by providing:

- Housing that is safe and affordable.
- Services that facilitate growth and recovery.
- Relationships built on a foundation of caring and respect, and
- A sense of hope for the future.

The Peer Specialist is a non-clinical staff member of the ACT community based multidisciplinary treatment team. The responsibilities are to provide peer support and case management services to promote the engagement and treatment of ACT recipients in recovery-oriented services. These services may occur in the home, community or office. Service provision includes using personal experience to act as a role model while providing education about self-help techniques, teaching effective symptom management skills and coping strategies, assisting in clarifying recovery goals, and assisting in the development of community support systems, networks, and daily living skills. Specific duties include:

- Develop a working knowledge of ACT as an evidenced based model and practice according to the guidelines set forth by OMH ;
- Develop and maintain trusting and supportive relationships with clients, families, and community providers. All service provisions shall be judgment free, non-confrontational, yet honest, open and delivered in a professional, caring, supportive and growth producing manner.
- Complete person centered living skills assessments and recommend appropriate treatment interventions to support individual recovery goals. Actively work with individuals to develop the skills needed to live successful lives in the community.
- Provide support, case management, community advocacy and linkage to services, per the treatment plan. Assist individuals with utilizing natural resources in the community.
- Assist with the development and utilization of wellness recovery plans.
- Act as an advocate and liaison for entitlements/benefits.
- Collaborate with all providers of the client's care team to ensure the best possible outcome.

Skills/Qualifications for the Peer Specialist include:

- High school diploma/GED.
- Must be a mental health consumer willing to utilize recovery experience to engage and support ACT clients.
- NYS peer certified **OR** ability to obtain peer certification through the Academy of Peer Services within 1 year of employment **and** relevant work experience.
- Must possess effective communication and written skills as well as an ability to utilize an electronic medical record.
- Must have a strong knowledge of wellness tools, recovery skills, and self-help resources.
- Must have strong commitment to the rights and ability of each person with a mental illness to make their own decisions and choices, live in the community, work, and have access to continuous support and services to enhance wellness and recovery.

- Ability to utilize public transportation.
- A valid and insurable NYS driver's license, preferred.

Salary and Schedule of the Peer Specialist:

- 24 hours per week, schedule will be mutually developed with the employee and within business hours.
- Includes benefits and paid time off, (pro-rated).
- \$15.00/hour.
- Supportive work environment.
- Agency vehicles available for business use.

Affirmative Action/EEO

Send resume to: Mohawk Opportunities, Inc.

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