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**Position Announcement
NYS System of Care Pilot
JOB TITLE: Family Peer Engagement Specialist
Salary: Grade 18
Salary Range: \$56,566-\$72,635**

The Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc. is seeking one (1) qualified candidate to fill the full-time position of **Family Peer Engagement Specialist**.

Background

The Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene on behalf of the New York State (NYS) Office of Mental Health and in partnership with multiple state, local, and county stakeholders, will build on the successes and lessons learned from an initial System of Care (SOC) Grant received in 2016. This second initiative (anticipated 2020-2024) will continue to change the service delivery system and outcomes for children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED), and other children and youth who face cross-system challenges, and their families throughout NYS.

The NYS SOC Pilot will foster statewide adoption of High Fidelity Wraparound within the Health Home Serving Children model to enhance family and youth voice and support the highest quality care planning for those children and youth with the highest acuity levels of clinical and service need. The model will integrate family-driven and youth-guided values in the coordination and delivery of support and services to children with SED and their families. It is the goal that each county in NYS will be in the process of developing, or will have already established, a local SOC, and be utilizing High Fidelity Wraparound practice model. Working with their partners, NYS will provide training and technical assistance to county partners, community-based providers, family and youth peers, and Health Home Care Management Agencies throughout the state via the provision of evidence-based, culturally and linguistically competent, family-driven and youth guided practices within a strengthened, responsive, and sustainable community infrastructure.

This new position establishes for the first time a Family Peer Engagement Specialist in the NYS Office of Mental Health Division of Integrated Community Services for Children and Families. We are looking for a team member who has lived experience raising a child with social, emotional, developmental, health and/or behavioral healthcare needs, who is able to share their story with others, and bring that unique perspective to the project team. Networking with a variety of peer advocates, serving families, youth, and adults at a regional and county/community level and keeping abreast of industry needs and trends will be critical for this position. The candidate will have a strong customer service orientation, attention to detail and creative problem-solving skills. The candidate will have the ability to exercise sound judgment and maintain harmonious working relationships, be flexible in programmatic changes and scheduling, and be able to receive and respond to supervision. This candidate should have demonstrated experience in cross-agency collaboration and can use this experience to foster collaboration, teamwork and enthusiasm among diverse groups. The candidate should possess an ability to assess, analyze information and develop action steps to further project goals with respect to family-driven values. The individual's ability to work independently and as part of a team is a necessity for this project, along with strong communication skills (written and verbal). The candidate will serve as a member of the team by attending regularly scheduled meetings, by coming prepared, and by participating in discussion to ensure that the decisions of the project are family-driven.

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will

- Provide family voice to all aspects of project development and implementation, including Division work, ensuring that all project components embody family-driven values.
- Complete training in strategic sharing of lived experience
- Establish relationships with national and state organizations that can inform family peer practice in the project and in NYS; conduct national and state research, as needed, to obtain helpful tools and information to contribute toward project activities;
- Work directly with two targeted rural sites and any expansion sites, along with respective regional peer advocates, to assess strengths, challenges and areas for specific technical assistance, goal setting and coaching to work toward a local system that reflects family-driven values; technical assistance for two rural sites may include tool/material development, meeting convening, presentations, assistance with policy development and other related tasks.
- Deliver in-person training to family and youth peers statewide, with planned on-line refreshers and technical assistance related to the integration of Child and Family Treatment and Support Services delivery and participation in the Wraparound process.
- Participate in project evaluation activities, including outreach and engagement of families via interviews and surveys.
- Collaborate with the NYS Office of Mental Health, Bureau of Consumer Affairs, in supporting peer work statewide and participating in peer-to-peer support.
- Integrate the System of Care framework into all aspects of the project.

Minimum Requirements:

- Demonstrate lived experience as a parent or primary caregiver who has navigated multiple child serving systems on behalf of their child(ren) with social, emotional, developmental, health and/or behavioral healthcare needs.
- Demonstrate comfort with sharing personal lived experience in the context of project, to promote family-driven program and service development.
- BA with two years of related professional experience required.
- Experience as a New York State Credentialed Family Peer Advocate (FPA) is a plus, or willingness to complete training within 6 months of hire.
- At least one year of training and public speaking experience.
- Within two years of work experience, have developed written materials for a variety of audiences.
- Possess a driver's license and access to reliable transportation.
- Experience in all applications of Microsoft Office Suite and Outlook email.

Work Location: 44 Holland Avenue, Albany, NY 12229. At this time, telecommuting is in place and a gradual transition back to the workplace is occurring. This position will be in-person at our offices as soon as restrictions are lifted.

This position requires frequent statewide travel (25%) though currently this requirement is impacted by public health guidance surrounding COVID-19.

To Apply: Submit a resume and cover letter by September 2, 2020, on our website at <https://rfmh.applicantpro.com/jobs/1491667.html>. Only applications submitted through our website will be considered.

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of the State of New York. Employees of the Research Foundation are not state employees, do not participate in any state retirement system, and do not receive state fringe benefits. Excellent Benefits Package. Employer/Minority/Women/Disabled/Veteran Employer. VEVRAA 41 CFR 60-300.5(a) compliant.