

PARENT PEER PARTNER JOB DESCRIPTION

Position Summary:

The Parent Peer Partner will provide Family Peer Support Services (FPSS) to families within their individualized service area, as directed by the families served, in a manner that encourages education, empowerment, rebuilding of natural supports and future self-sufficiency in an environment that is comfortable and chosen by the families we serve.

Position Functions and Responsibilities:

- Educate families to FPSS options and work with them to create family support goals that identify the type and intensity of FPSS that they desire and deliver same.
- Provide advocacy (school, court, medical and general) as desired by families being served while modeling and teaching advocacy skills and effective communication styles that will contribute to the family's future success in self-advocacy.
- Orient new families as they are referred to the SPOA and other service provisions systems.
- Provide needs-based individualized training within the home or community as desired by the families served.
- Appropriately document family support and advocacy activities and progress of the program through data collection, case-noting, service logs and Journey Mapping as directed by NYS OMH, MHACC policy and procedure, and program director.
- Effectively utilize available tools within MHA's Resource Library and all other available resources such as the internet to provided requested information to our families regarding specific topics.
- Provide information regarding community-based treatment options, service opportunities, active support groups, financial support, advocacy, and training opportunities.
- Assist families in coordination of family recreation activities that will enrich family relationships and rebuild natural support systems.
- Assist families in identifying goals and creating action plans for desired outcomes through use of the Western Region Family Support FANS.
- Educate families to respite opportunities through use of natural supports, informal supports and community resources.
- Coordinate, facilitate and participate in support groups appropriate to families needs.
- Attend and participate in local individualized meetings for families such as Cross Systems, CSE, 504 and etc... and coordinate and co-facilitate same as desired by families.
- Participate in activities that further the education of the community and government on topics that affect our families, enhance service delivery within our county, advocate for systems change, and enrich relationships with other community partners as requested.
- Actively participate in all required training opportunities within the scope of employment and pursue further enrichment/training opportunities as they become available and scheduling allows.
- Participate in regular staff and volunteer meetings.

Qualifications:

- Parent Peer Partner must have a child identified with a significant mental health and/or developmental disability with no less than 5 years experience as a parent within the appropriate service delivery system. PPP experience must have demonstrated the ability to effectively advocate within the system while maintaining the appropriate level of diplomacy and decorum and model these skills to families being served.
- Parent Partner must be able to satisfactorily complete required background checks and fingerprinting prior to working in direct care within a family's home.
- Must have a high school diploma or the equivalent and have computer experience or the aptitude to learn computer-based documentation and tasks.
- Must have completed Common Sense Parenting prior to or within the first six (6) months of employment and/or volunteering with MHA.
- Ability to effectively model appropriate communication styles, parent to child and peer to peer interactions and act as a role model to parents struggling with these issues.
- Demonstrated ability to speak, listen and write in a clear, thorough and timely manner using appropriate and effective communication tools and techniques.
- Knowledge of government and legislative processes as applicable to support the interests of the families served and organization.