



## Job Description

### Position: Peer Specialist & Workshop Co- Facilitator

Program/Department: BCS Greater Heights Clubhouse

Reports to: Program Manager, New York City Mural Arts Project

Work Location: TBD Hours:  Full Time  Part Time  Hourly

### Position Summary:

The New York City Mural Arts Project (NYCMAP) uses a collaborative mural-making process to discuss mental health, support social resiliency, and foster new relationships in NYC communities. The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene works with community-based organizations, artists, mental health peers (people living with a mental health condition), and the community at large to break down misconceptions and stigma associated with mental illness. Using our design process, we translate our conversations into a mural that reflects the dialogue around mental health and incorporates the diversity and strength of everyone involved in the mural-making process. The goals of NYCMAP are to:

1. Create opportunities for community conversations that expand an informed and productive understanding of mental health, decrease stigma about mental illness, and increase the capacity of New York City residents to support people in recovery. These discussions explore and raise awareness about neighborhood influences and social determinants of health, which may contribute to any individual's recovery and broader community development.
2. Redefine what it is to live with a mental illness by incorporating the lived experience and recovery paths of people living with a mental health condition. The purpose is to normalize the issues around mental illness within the community.
3. Increase awareness about available support services for people living with a mental health condition, and share where and how to access these services within a community.
4. Successfully create and install a minimum of three (3) large-scale [1] murals across the five (5) boroughs of New York City, per City fiscal year). The murals will enhance the physical environment and support the City's broader quality of life goals, using local assets and creativity within our communities to instill civic pride and serve a community's interests.

### Position Overview:

A Peer Specialist is an individual with lived mental health recovery experience who has been formally trained to help their Peers who have a mental illness gain hope, move forward in their own recovery, and achieve life goals. Peer Specialists will co-facilitate the weekly workshops and Open Studios ("Pop-Up Events") with the Lead Mural Artist in conversation with Peers and Community Members at various events for the duration of the project. The workshops will be co-facilitated by Peer Specialists and Lead Mural Artists to ensure meaningful dialogue around mental health and stigma, using a manual developed by DOHMH. Mental Health Topics will be outlined in the manual, and discussions elaborating on these topics will be developed and

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conducted by the Peer Specialist.

The Peer Specialist must be able to work part-time for the duration of 7 months at all 25 weekly workshops. The applicant must also attend and co-facilitate community engagement events on some evenings and weekends. Regular time commitment per week is approximately **8-10 Hours/Week**.

NYCMAP anticipates selecting a total of three (3) Peer Specialists to work closely with mental health consumers and the community over a period of seven months to create and install three (3) mental health-themed murals installed in TBD locations.

### **Responsibilities:**

#### **1. Planning and Development**

- Attend a training with DOHMH/NYCMAP and IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) to be trained on the program design and how to facilitate MAP events, including workshops and open studios
- Work closely with NYCMAP staff and the lead artist to develop arts-based activities for all weekly workshops ensuring mental health is central to the conversation
- Conduct site visits at the mental health service provider and in the community with the artist and NYCMAP staff

#### **2. Workshops - Facilitation & Summaries**

- Attend twenty (20) workshops at the community based organization
  - Facilitate mental health discussions, (planned prior to each workshop with the Lead Artist and NYCMAP), using a manual developed by DOHMH
  - Help the Lead Muralist create a culture of mutual respect and trust in the workshops
  - Attend pre- and post- workshop meetings with the Lead Artist to synthesize outcomes and plan for the next meeting
- Support and empower peers in their own recovery

#### **3. Community Engagement Events and Outreach**

- Support the outreach and promotion of events helping community members understand the relevance of mental health to this project and in their work
- Support the planning of community events with artist and NYCMAP staff
- Lead collaborative and engaging discussions about mental health topics
- Attend three to five (3-5) Community Engagement Events
- Provide pre- and post- event support when necessary (setup and breakdown of activities, etc.).
- Attend pre- and post- event meetings
- Summarize and document outcomes, insights, and feedback from each community event
- Co-present (with the artist and/or NYCMAP staff) on project updates and insights gleaned through the design process

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#### **4. Mural Theme and Design Development**

- Provide input to the muralist about the workshop discussions; help ensure ideas from participants are incorporated into the design.
- Ensure outcomes from events and workshops are incorporated into the design
- Work with community members and the Mental Health Service Provider to refine the mural themes and design and ensuring MH is a component

#### **5. Communication and Support**

- Attend 1-on-1 supervision meetings with NYCMAP Staff
- Meet regularly with DOHMH and provide project feedback and insights throughout the program year

#### **Qualifications Required:**

- New York State Peer Specialist Certification Preferred
- 50 Hours of Peer Specialist Training, Required
- Minimum Level of Education - High School or Equivalent Degree
- 2-4 Years in Advocacy and education about mental health with the broader public
- High level of comfort speaking with different community members and large groups
- Demonstrated experience both facilitating (leading) and co-facilitating group conversation with other people with different communication styles
- Ability to listen to diverse perspectives and ideas in an empathetic manner
- Excellent verbal communication
- Time management and punctuality
- Highly Organized and Reliable
- Sincere interest in supporting other peers' recovery
- Experience collaborating on an arts project or a community-based project a plus
- Spanish proficiency and facilitation experience a plus

#### **How to apply:**

[Click here to apply to the Mural Arts Project - Peer Specialist & Workshop Co-Facilitator role](#)