

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

ANN MARIE T. SULLIVAN, M.D.
Commissioner

MOIRA TASHJIAN, MPA
Executive Deputy Commissioner

Advocacy Specialist 2 Posting

The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) is recruiting to fill one Advocacy Specialist 2 position in the Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA) to work as a Regional Advocacy Specialist assigned to the Hudson River Field Office. OCA works to ensure the inclusion of recipient perspectives into OMH policy making, planning, program development, and evaluation. Specifically, the incumbent will work to promote awareness of recovery, self-help, and empowerment, and the inclusion of people who are current and former users of mental health services into all areas of the mental health system. The incumbent serves at a Statewide level and functions as a Regional Advocate, interacting and collaborating with the Field Office staff, Central Office staff, and local mental health providers to deliver technical assistance, oversight, and training to State and local mental health programs Statewide.

Specific duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Provide feedback and recommendations concerning the development of new consumer and family initiatives, policy implementation, and the expansion of agency initiatives as they relate to consumer and family services.
- Promote the inclusion of people who are current and former users of mental health services in planning, policy implementation, program development, evaluation, monitoring, and related activities.
- Provide regional coordination and support to the Peer Workforce including working in various behavioral healthcare settings and in OMH state operations
 - Participate in OMH workgroups (composed of consumers, providers, family members, county government staff, and the general public) and in Statewide and regional initiatives to ensure that consumer and family interests are represented.
 - Work with psychiatric centers, central office and field office staff to continue to incorporate the consumer and family perspective into Agency services.
- Provide a regional perspective, as well as provide technical assistance, in support of the provision of consultation and assistance to State facility staff, local government, and provider agency staff on methods for promoting consumer involvement in planning, implementing, and evaluating mental health services.
- Promote the development and implementation of consumer support programs, initiatives, and training within the public mental health system by developing and/or facilitating a training curriculum to staff and stakeholders at State facilities and community based programs. Evaluate training effectiveness and make suggestions for improvements.
 - Convene regional focus groups, town meetings, work groups, and dialogues to gather feedback and direction from people who use services, and their families, on mental health related issues.
 - Provide leadership, guidance, and technical assistance to OMH staff, OMH contract vendors, and key community stakeholders in implementing consumer support projects and initiatives. Develop and implement project

- o proposals; develop outreach and engagement strategies to foster community buy-in; review and modify goals, timelines, strategic plans or deliverables.
- o Provide expert advice, assistance, and training to ensure mental health services are trauma informed, recovery oriented, and culturally inclusive.
- Promote awareness of recovery, self-help, and empowerment by disseminating evidence based and best practices information to consumers, providers, family members, county government and the general public.

Minimum Qualifications:

A Bachelor's degree AND two years' experience as a professional advocate or service provider in the field of rehabilitation, developmental disabilities, or mental health; OR A Master's degree in a human services field AND one year of experience as a professional advocate or service provider in the field of rehabilitation, developmental disabilities, or mental health; OR Five years of experience as a professional advocate or service provider in the field of rehabilitation, developmental disabilities, or mental health.

Application Procedure:

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter via email to OMHHRM@OMH.NY.GOV, attention Sarah Mahar. Please reference Vacancy ID # 105798B

Notes:

Candidates are advised that, should they accept a job with OMH, they will be required to be fingerprinted and pay a fingerprint fee. New York State residency is required at the time of appointment. NYS Office of Mental Health is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Based on federal and/or state regulations, this position requires vaccination against COVID-19. Upon appointment, the selected candidate must be fully vaccinated, or willing to become fully vaccinated, against COVID-19 and will be required to provide proof of vaccination. Candidates who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at the time of interview may not start working until two weeks after their final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

For complete vacancy details, please see the following link: [StateJobsNY - Public Information: Review Vacancy](#)