



**Mission Statement:** “To empower and inspire people of all communities to identify, pursue and sustain healthy, meaningful lives”.

**MHAW strives to develop an authentic, diverse workforce that embraces, creates, respects and demonstrates *diversity, equity, and inclusiveness* in the work environment, towards one another and those we serve. We recognize that our agency is strongest when we all embrace the full spectrum of diversity and experience. We actively seek to employ a diverse workforce representative of the communities we serve.**

**MHAW is a pro-vaccination agency, and has required all staff to be fully vaccinated and encourages service recipients to be vaccinated against Covid-19.**

**Position:** CORE Peer Specialist

**Salary:** \$21.54 per hour

**Hours:** Full Time- 37.5 hours per week

**Locations:** Various locations throughout Suffolk County

**Position Description:**

The CORE Peer Specialist is a trained peer specialist who has personal lived experience receiving mental health services and/or psychiatric hospitalizations; with a willingness to share, to educate, and inspire others. CORE Peer Specialists establish positive, strength-based, inspiring supportive relationships with a variety of people. CORE Peer Specialists provide needed services to HARP enrolled (Medicaid Managed Care) individuals with chronic mental disorders and /or chronic Substance use Disorders.

At this time during the pandemic, we are utilizing a Hybrid service delivery model: a combination of safe, in-person, in home or community-based visits, and telehealth visits – telephonic and/or virtual. These service visits may occur within the individual’s home, at places of employment, places of internship, places of education, and in other areas within the community, all while following the current CDC and NYS OMH Covid-19 guidelines.

**Key Responsibilities will include; but not limited to:**

- Provision of Peer Support and coaching to individuals in a face to face or telehealth model, one to one format, and/or to groups of individuals with the focus on enhancing recovery and well-being.
- Co-creation of an Individualized Service Plan based upon the goals and objectives listed with the individual’s Plan of Care.
- Individual coaching related to Educational and Vocational endeavors, including assistance with daily living and social skills.
- Assist with linkage to community resources. Provide assistance with developing/increasing skills for coping and managing behavioral health symptoms and relapse prevention using natural resources.
- Assist in promoting enhanced recovery-oriented principles of hope, self- efficacy; community living skills through a shared personal experience of recovery.
- Assist with advocacy regarding entitlement benefits such as food, clothing, and shelter.

**Qualifications:**

- This position is reserved for an individual who identifies as a person with lived experience, having received a psychiatric diagnosis, receiving or received mental health services, and has the ability to relate to and support others based on the “shared personal experience” paradigm. Provisional or **Certified New York State Peer Specialist**; certification through NYS OMH or OASAS.
- Education - minimum qualifications include a high school diploma or GED.
- Have at least one year experience in direct services working with persons who have been given a psychiatric diagnosis and/or trauma survivors.

- Basic knowledge of the public health/behavioral health system including, but not limited to; mental health services and public entitlements
- Strong writing and computer skills, as electronic health record is used for documentation. Basic knowledge in computer applications such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook and Social Media.
- Clean NY State Driver's License as some driving with clients will be necessary
- Bi-lingual, English/Spanish is a plus; stipend is awarded for assessed and verified bi-lingual proficiency
- Must have reliable transportation for this position
- Must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19

\* Association for Mental Health and Wellness is offering a onetime sign on bonus for individuals hired with the agency upon successful completion of an introductory period.

Please send resume and cover letter expressing your interest in this position to:

Kathy Elfers, Human Resources Director

[kelfers@mhaw.org](mailto:kelfers@mhaw.org)