**Youth Peer Advocate**

**Fee For Service**

**Brooklyn Based**

**$25.00 per hour**

**Responsibilities: Provide services and supports to CFTSS enrolled youth.**

Youth Peer Advocates (YPA) services are formal and informal services and supports provided to youth who are experiencing social, medical, emotional, developmental, substance use, and/or behavioral challenges in their home, school, placement, and/or community. These services provide the support necessary to ensure engagement and active participation of the youth in the treatment planning process and support the ongoing implementation and reinforcement of skills. Services are delivered in a trauma informed, culturally and linguistically competent manner. Services offer positive youth development-centered services with a resiliency/recovery focus. The YPA will promote skills for coping and managing psychiatric symptoms and will facilitate the use of natural and community supports and resources. In addition, the YPA will promote wellness through modeling and will assist with gaining and regaining the ability to make independent choices and playing a proactive role in their own treatment.

**SPECIFIC DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:**
1. Engage the youth in a variety of strategies to work toward identified goals, including but not limited to: strengthening problem solving skills; providing mentoring; engaging in community resource exploration; and providing life skills support
2. Engage in regular communication with the child’s team, to ensure continuity of care
3. Document client progress and maintain a permanent record of client activity according to established methods and procedures

**Requirements:** NYS Youth Peer Advocate Credential.

To be eligible for the NY Youth Peer Advocate Professional Credential, an individual must:

• Be an individual 18 to 30 years old that has self-identified as a person who has first-hand experience with social, emotional, medical, developmental, substance use, and/or behavioral challenges.

• Be able to use lived experience with a disability, mental illness, juvenile justice, special education, substance use disorder, and/or foster care to assist in supporting youth in their resiliency/recovery and wellness.

• At a minimum, have a HS diploma, HS equivalency preferred or a State Education Commencement Credential. This educational requirement can be waived by the certifying agency if the person has demonstrated competencies and has relevant life experience sufficient for the peer certification.

**Interborough Developmental and Consultation Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

Please email your resume to kclark@interborough.org