YPA Job Description

Qualifications

1. Candidate must be between the ages of 21 and 30
2. Candidate must have ‘lived experience’ in the children’s mental health system and/or other child serving systems and be far enough in their personal recovery to share and be around triggering situations.
3. Proficient in computer use
4. Candidate must have a driver’s license and a car
5. Excellent communication skills, including writing, speaking and listening
6. *Highly skilled at youth and teen engagement*
7. High school diploma or equivalent

Job Responsibilities

1. Engage with youth and build trust as an additional supportive person in their treatment, apart from the staff and professionals on their treatment team;
2. Help youth identify and communicate their personal goals, thoughts and needs;
3. Educate youth about the service planning processes, and help find answers for their questions when unsure.
4. Empower youth by helping them to develop an effective way to have a ‘voice’ in their own recovery;
5. Provide support and understanding as someone who has lived experience and understands the hardships of recovery.
6. Build trust and reduce isolation through focusing on youth’s strengths, interests, and needs
7. Encouragement to attend community social groups, mental health support groups and mental health advocacy groups;
8. Share your own experiences and positive outcomes to offer hope things can and will get better.
9. Maintain youth confidentiality and adherence to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) at all times
10. Complete required documentation in a timely manner consistent with agency guidelines
11. Actively seek community resources to share with the youth and the professionals on their treatment team (ie. Support groups, activities, classes in the community)
12. Attend Treatment Team meetings: give youth perspective, share ideas, and updates on the youth your working with as their treatment is discussed.
13. Attend Unit Community Meetings, help facilitate the meetings with the youth’s perspective in mind.
14. Help run therapeutic groups. (ie. Peer engagement group, self esteem group, social skills group, etc.)
15. Engage in peer mediation when conflict arises between youths.