



Job title	<i>Youth Peer Advocate, Child & Family Support Program (CFSP) part-time and full-time position</i>
Reports to	<i>Director, Child & Family Support Program</i>

Job purpose

In keeping the Mental Health Advocates of WNY, Inc. (MHA) Vision and Value statements, the Youth Peer Advocate maintains a Mission-driven approach and provides a message of hope, strength and recovery to youth whose lives are impacted by mental illness through shared insight and experience.

Duties and responsibilities

- Works as a member of a committed team to coordinate peer-led educational and support programs for adolescents and transition age youth in schools and in the community.
- Models and implements a youth-driven approach to services.
- Assists youth in engaging in their treatment plan and gaining self-advocacy skills.
- Compiles and maintains an up-to-date list of community supports for youth.
- Facilitates support groups, assists with workshops and family recreational activities to provide support and youth and family education.
- Provides support to youth participating in the Erie County Children’s System of Care.
- Models and teaches advocacy and empowerment skills.
- Supports transition-age youth and shares knowledge of resources in the adult system.
- Actively participates in community meetings when needed to represent the youth voice.
- Documents all activities.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

The following is a list of experience, technologies, credentials, skills and other items which are required for this position:

- Is between the ages of 18 and 30.
- Has been a recipient of at least one of the child serving systems: mental health care, addiction treatment, foster care, juvenile justice, and child welfare.
- High School diploma or GED required, some college preferred.
- Ability to demonstrate sensitivity and supportive approach to the needs of others.
- Evidence of the practice of a high level of confidentiality and HIPAA compliance.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Great relationship building, interpersonal, and coaching skills.
- Sound, independent decision making ability.
- Proficient computer skills in a Microsoft office environment.
- Team-first attitude and a positive demeanor.



- Flexibility with schedule to include evening hours and weekends.

Travel Requirements

Mandatory: must possess a valid Driver's License with reliable transportation to travel within New York State, as well as nationally, if required.

Approved by:	
Date approved:	
Reviewed:	

Agency Website: www.mhawny.org

How to Apply: Please send a cover letter with resume to: peersupport@mhawny.org
MHA, ATTN: Career Opportunities YPA; 1021 Broadway, Buffalo, NY 14212