



SENECA COUNTY

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

CIVIL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



Peer Advocate
2019 rate: \$17.31 per hour

Full benefits package including NYS Retirement

Seneca County has a residency requirement that an applicant must be a resident of Seneca County or one of the six contiguous counties (Cayuga, Ontario, Schuyler, Tompkins, Wayne and Yates) for one month to be eligible for appointment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college with an Associate's Degree in Human Services or Social Sciences; or
- B. Graduation from High School or possession of a High School Equivalency diploma and two years of full-time paid experience in advocacy work, peer services or a related area.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS:

Eligibility for certification as a Certified Peer Recovery Advocate as recognized by New York State office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (NYS OASAS), or Certified Peer Specialist as recognized by New York State Office of Mental Health.

Certification must be possessed within one year of hire and maintained throughout employment.

Possession of a valid New York State Driver's License which must be maintained throughout employment.

Please apply online at <https://seneca-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>

Applications Accepted Up To:
December 15, 2018
or until position is filled

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

The Peer Advocate assists clients in defining their personal recovery goals and determining their individual objectives. Through the provision of a variety of peer support services the Peer Advocate will work to increase the client's involvement in treatment, life planning and decision making. The Peer Advocate works to assist clients to increase access to appropriate services and supports while decreasing the need for future acute services. The Peer Advocate has personal experience with substance use disorder or mental health disorder and will therefore share their skills and knowledge directly with clients, as well as through modeling and social learning. Performs other related duties as required.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Working knowledge of the role of Peer Services in the recovery process; ability to work cooperatively and effectively with professional colleagues and other professional groups; good judgment in dealing with people; neat appearance; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only):

Completes required documentation in the electronic health record;
Provides recovery education to service recipients for every phase of the recovery journey from pre-recovery engagement, recovery initiation, recovery stabilization, and sustained recovery maintenance;
Provides a model for both people in recovery and staff by demonstrating that recovery is possible;
Assists recovering persons to identify their personal interests, goals, strengths and weaknesses regarding recovery;
Assists/coaches recovering persons develop their own plan for advancing their recovery; for "getting the life they want;"
Promotes self-advocacy by assisting recovering persons to have their voices fully heard; their needs, goals and objectives established as the focal point of rehabilitation and clinical services;
Actively identifies and supports linkages to community resources (communities of recovery, educational, vocational, social, cultural, spiritual resources, mutual self- help groups, professional services, etc.) that support the recovering person's goals and interests. This will involve a collaborative effort including the recovering person, agency staff and other relevant stakeholders.
Supports connections to community based, mutual self-help groups;
Links individuals to appropriate professional resources when needed;
Provides vision-driven hope and encouragement for opportunities at varying levels of involvement in community based activities (e.g., work, school, relationships, physical activity, self-directed hobbies, etc.).
Develops relationships with community groups/agencies in partnership with others in the agency;
Visits community resources with recovering persons to assist them in becoming familiar with potential opportunities;
Identifies barriers (internal and external) to full participation in community resources and developing strategies to overcome those barriers;
Transports clients to services as needed and indicated in client's treatment plan;
Provides off-site face to face peer services to recovering persons in various settings such as emergency rooms, hospitals, jails and in their homes as needed;
Maintains contact by phone and/or e-mail with recovering person after they leave the program to insure their ongoing success and to provide re-engagement support in partnership with others in the agency if needed.
Provides long-term engagement, support, and encouragement;
Other related duties as required.

Posting Date: November 29, 2018