



# *Yonkers School-Based Family Peer Advocate*

## **POSITION SUMMARY:**

Family peer support services are an array of services and supports provided to families raising a child or young adult up to age 21, who is experiencing social, emotional, developmental and/or behavioral health challenges. These services are community-based and are provided in a variety of settings that meet a family's needs and schedule.

The Family Peer Advocate functions as both an advocate and deliverer of services that are trauma-informed and designed to support caregivers in achieving and sustaining their family's good health, emotional wellness and stability.

The Family Peer Advocate (FPA) will work as a member of a team, and in close collaboration, with a clinical case manager and respite specialist to support caregivers of youngsters who are referred to the Yonkers school-based Crisis Stabilization Program, an innovative short-term intervention designed to help students avoid hospitalization and/or emergency room visits.

Full-time, some nights and weekends may be required.

Salary range: \$34,000 - \$45,000, depending on experience.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:**

- Establish structured, strength-based, supportive relationships with caregivers that benefit the youth/child.
- Participate in weekly Crisis team meetings;
- Contribute a family support lens to the safety planning process and the overall crisis stabilization plan;
- Link and refer to Family Ties' Yonkers Resource Center;
- Meet families in the office, at home or in the community as requested;
- Assist families in identifying their strengths, challenges and goals;
- Connect families to needed resources and supports;
- Promote effective parent-professional partnerships and address barriers that may prevent their participation;
- Using an electronic database, document demographic data on all individuals seen, track all services provided to caregivers and monitor progress towards identified goals;
- Support and encourage family participation in community, regional, and state-wide activities to expand leadership skills;
- Coordinate with community partners to ensure cross-systems collaboration on behalf of families served;
- Advocate for services and systems that are fair, responsive, and family-driven;
- Complete all documentation in compliance with agency policy and funding regulations in a timely fashion. This includes, but is not limited to case records, time sheets, mileage forms and expense reports;



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- Participate in all agency quality improvement activities.

## **MUST-HAVE:**

- High school diploma or equivalent and two years' experience working directly with families.
- Be a caregiver of a youngster with social, emotional or behavioral challenges.
- Ability to communicate effectively in Spanish (speaking and writing).
- Good verbal, written and computer skills.
- Be able to complete the Family Peer Advocate certification process within one year of hire.
- Valid NYS driver's license, safe driving history, access to a vehicle that is properly insured and registered in accordance with NYS DMV regulations.
- Satisfactory clearances from the Child Abuse Registry and Criminal History Information Tracking System.
- Ability to work with diverse social, cultural, and economic groups.
- Proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

## **WOULD BE GREAT TO HAVE:**

- Familiarity with the Westchester community that we serve.
- Experience facilitating groups.
- Experience providing Wraparound supports.
- Experience using an electronic health record.
- Knowledge of System of Care philosophy.
- Understanding of, and appreciation for, trauma-informed care principles.
- Bachelor's degree.

Please submit cover letter and resume to [HR@Familieswest.org](mailto:HR@Familieswest.org)

For additional information, please contact Madeline Lombardi at (914) 995-5238.