



## Job Posting

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### Family Peer Support Specialist Baltimore City

#### Who We Are

Maryland Coalition of Families (MCF) helps families who have young people with behavioral health needs, including mental health and substance use challenges. Using personal experience as parents, caregivers and young people, we connect, support and empower Maryland's families. MCF is also expanding its work to support family members and other loved ones of those with problem gambling.

#### Overview

The Maryland Coalition of Families (MCF) is hiring a full-time Family Peer Support Specialist for Baltimore City. The Family Peer Support Specialist will be a primary caregiver of a youth, adolescent or young adult who has mental health needs, and will provide family-to-family support, education, advocacy, coaching, information and referral and follow-up to families involved with the Department of Social Services.

#### Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide education and support to families with youth, adolescents and young adults with intensive behavioral health needs to negotiate their way through the social, legal, educational and health care systems.
- Facilitate a process for families to develop a plan to: clarify the problem(s); provide emotional support; identify needs and strengths; and identify resources including appropriate levels of services, entitlements, community resources and other natural supports.
- Assist families and youth to build their own community based support network, and ensure that their goals are integrated into one unified plan as necessary.
- Facilitate families accessing supports and services by: sharing information about resources and supports; making phone calls to connect families with resources; providing guidance in completing forms and applications; supporting families to fully understand their rights; reviewing documents such as IEPs or reports with families to ensure they fully understand documents; empowering families to effectively articulate their concerns and needs; accompanying families to meetings; and educating families on laws, policies and procedures.
- For families enrolled in Targeted Case Management or the 1915i Waiver, partner with Care Coordinators/Wraparound facilitator throughout the stages of the Wraparound facilitated process, including: intake, engaging family members, developing a child and family team, and serving on child and family team. Implement all assigned tasks within the plan of care.
- For families not currently enrolled in Targeted Case Management or the 1915i, provide information about the programs and facilitate connection to the regional CCO provider as appropriate
- Build and maintain strong partnerships with agencies and providers of services related to behavioral health and other child-serving systems.
- Ensure that families are equal partners in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating their own plans.
- Partner with other members of the Peer Support team to create and maintain a centralized, updated directory of behavioral health resources, including support meetings, screening and referrals for treatment, family education groups therapeutic and/or pro-social recreation, volunteer training opportunities and other services designed to meet the needs of their family.

- Collaborate with other MCF staff to develop support and educational programs that empower families.
- Partner with other MCF staff to serve families of youth/young adults with complex needs.
- Administrative duties to include maintaining client files, submitting required documentation, active participation in supervision and in MCF internal and external training opportunities.
- Other duties as assigned

### **Qualifications:**

- **Lived experience as a primary caregiver of a youth, adolescent or young adult who has mental health needs is required. Preference is given amongst equally qualified candidates to those with personal experience utilizing/navigating the Department of Social Services system.**
- Familiarity with state and local resources and how to access them.
- Willingness and strong ability to build and maintain partnerships with agencies and providers.
- Active listening skills for providing peer support and engagement to families.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Strong computer skills and the ability to efficiently utilize internet search to identify resources.
- Current Maryland driver's license and access to own vehicle; limited in-state travel required.
- Prior experience assisting other families to obtain appropriate services and supports for their child and family members is desirable.
- Successful completion of a background check is required for all MCF employees.

### **Hours/Compensation:**

- Full-time – 40 hours/week
- Flexible work schedule
- Salary commensurate with experience. Salary range \$15 -19 per hour.

### **To apply:**

Send resume with a cover letter describing your interest in this position and relevant experience caring for a youth or young adult with behavioral health challenges to [Hire@mdcoalition.org](mailto:Hire@mdcoalition.org): applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Please include "Peer Support – Baltimore" in the subject line.

*Please note that mailed or faxed resumes will not be considered. No phone calls please.*

### **Diversity:**

Maryland Coalition of Families is committed to hiring a diverse and talented workforce. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer – all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, marital status, national origin, disability, veteran status or any other classification protected by applicable discrimination laws.