



JOB DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Career Development Peer Specialist
Reports to:	Director of Career Development Services
Classification	Non-Exempt
Salary Range:	\$17.80
Hours per week:	Full-Time: 35 Hours; Part-Time:17.5 Hours

Summary of Position:

The Career Development Peer Specialist position provides supportive services to individuals who are involved with Fellowship's Supported Employment Programs. The Peer Specialist will use his/her own experience as a recipient of behavioral health services to counsel and help others with challenges experienced at work both individually and in a group setting.

General Duties & Responsibilities:

- Develop, plan and conduct peer support groups
- Assist clients to develop coping and stress reduction strategies, e.g., Wellness Recovery Action Plan
- Connect clients with resources that promote recovery and independence
- Assist clients individually and through group activities
- Assertive outreach activities to engage clients
- Teach clients how to use public transportation
- Connect clients to community and natural supports, e.g., AA/NA, church groups, etc...
- Communicate with other service providers to create collaborative working relationships and support client
- Provide supports to individuals who have successfully graduated from the program
- Document client contacts and progress

Desirable Skills & Abilities:

- Familiarity with local mental health services
- Empathy for people who suffer from a mental illness or substance abuse problem; sensitivity to cultural and ethnic minorities
- Motivational interviewing skills and good outreach and engagement skills
- Ability to engage and counsel people with psychiatric illness and other special needs
- Fluency in Spanish helpful

Position Requirements:

- Personal experience as a recipient of behavioral health services
- High school diploma or GED
- Graduate of CCAR's Recovery Coach training program, Advocacy Unlimited's RSS program, or Hartford Healthcare's RSS program
- Knowledge of Microsoft Word; ability to send and receive electronic mail
- Valid Connecticut Driver's license; use of personal vehicle during work hours preferred

- Ability to work evenings and weekends when required
- Record keeping and service planning according to agency guidelines
- Be able to work both independently and as part of a team