

**LIFE MANAGEMENT CENTER OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, INC.
JOB DESCRIPTION**

DATE ESTABLISHED: 02/19/2009

TITLE OF POSITION: Inpatient Peer Specialist Volunteer

POSITION NUMBER: 20-17

PROGRAM: Bay

COMPONENT: Crisis Stabilization Unit

MINIMUM TRAINING, CREDENTIALS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED: Must be or have been a recipient of mental health services for a mental illness. Good oral and written communication skills required. Must have skills and competence to establish supportive trusting relationships with persons with severe and persistent mental illnesses, and respect for individuals' rights and personal preferences in treatment is essential. Must have a high school diploma or GED.

Completion of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Basic First Aid training (within six months of hiring). Completion of four hours of HIV/AIDS education (within 30 days of hiring) and two hours of HIV/AIDS information (biannually). Successful completion of Techniques for Effective Aggression Management (TEAM) training (within six months of hiring).

Completion of an additional 16 hours of service related training annually.

Compliance with minimum standards for screening of mental health personnel as contained in F.S. 394.4572.

SUPERVISOR: Director of Nursing, or designee

POSITIONS SUPERVISED: None

SALARY MINIMUM: \$16,640.00

WAGE AND HOUR STATUS: This is a Volunteer position. The salary minimum identified is established to identify the compensation for equivalent duties an

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: *

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: (Essential functions of this position are listed below. The position also includes additional functions as needed and/or assigned by supervisor.)

1. Provide peer support drawing on common experiences as a peer, validate individuals' experiences and provide guidance and encouragement to persons served to take responsibility and actively participate in their own recovery.
2. Serve as a mentor to persons served to promote hope and empowerment.

3. Increase awareness of and support client participation in consumer self-help programs and consumer advocacy organizations that promote recovery.
4. Provide expertise and consultation from a mental health consumer perspective concerning individuals' experiences with symptoms of mental illness, the effects and side-effects of medications, individuals' responses to and opinions of treatment, and individuals' experiences of recovery.
5. Help clients identify, understand, and combat stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness and develop strategies to reduce self-stigma.
6. Share duties in the provision of treatment and rehabilitation services to include basic living skills training in areas such as budgeting, money management, household activities, personal hygiene, grooming, and use of community resources.
7. Assist in the provision of ongoing assessment of clients' mental illness symptoms and clients' responses to treatment.
8. Perform mentoring, problem solving, encouragement and support.
9. Assist individuals to plan and carry out leisure time activities.
10. Organize and lead individual and group social and recreational activities to help clients structure their time.
11. Provide practical help and supports, mentoring, problem solving, and direct assistance.
12. Facilitate and encourage clients regarding continuation of recovery plans and treatment services.
13. Document services within specified time frames.

Physical Demands:

Must have satisfactory health, stamina, and strength, as the position necessitates frequent walking, standing, sitting, and lifting. Good range of motion is needed for TEAM techniques and to quickly intervene in emergency situations. Must have satisfactory vision and hearing to adequately and efficiently perform the requirements of the position. Must have the agility and coordination to participate in-group activities. Must be willing and able to assist in protecting patients from harming themselves and/or others in emergency situations. Good communication skills necessary.