

ZIA Access Center: Peer Mentor Job Description

We are looking for a new member for the Zia Access Center's staff team. Peer Mentors are central to the Zia Access Center. Peer Mentors are individuals who have experience with receiving a mental health diagnosis and share this experience with the young adults (ages from 16 to 22) they support. We prefer that the Peer Mentor is a young adult themselves. The Peer Mentor will support the Access Center's daily operations within the Kiva Center and the Bridge of Central Mass.

Interested parties should contact Vesper Moore at the Zia Access Center at 508-751-9600 or by Vesper.Moore@centralmassrlc.org by Friday, August 24th. The fax number is 508-751-9601.

Mentor Responsibilities:

- Must work independently and as a part of the team.
- Carry trauma-informed principles throughout your interactions.
- Open the space and ensure a clean safe environment on a daily basis: i.e. coffee maker, trash, table, meetings etc.
- Engage with all young adults who enter the Zia Access Center at either location and follow their lead as well as demonstrate leadership as needed for each individual encountered.
- Market services with other organizations.
- Develop and maintain current resources concerning entitlement, social security, insurance transportation and any other needs that arise.
- Plan for and engage with the Young Adult Advisory Committee set up for meeting before and notify all youth.
- Advertise and market Zia Access Center with all partners and work collaboratively with Kiva Center and the Bridge of Central Mass colleagues.
- Engage in all required trainings per your supervisor and fill out a training record.
- Work on your day to day work plan to complete tasks professionally.

Required Qualifications:

- Must have lived experience with mental health issues as a young adult.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Must be willing to share their comeback "recovery" stories as it pertains to the mental health system, and have self-knowledge evidenced by their experiences with a recovery process.
- Interest in discussion about diverse perspectives and experiences.
- Appreciation for, and sensitivity to, cultural differences.
- Computer proficiency is essential specifically in Excel, Windows 10 and social media platforms. Knowledge of mental health recovery resources and support systems.
- Maturity in dealing with confidential and personal information.
- Willingness to be a role model.
- Must demonstrate success in learning how to obtain community resources to support young adults in building their own support system while offering direct support.

Desired Qualifications & Characteristics:

- Reliable and accountable.
- Self-reflective; ability to help evaluate the program and identify areas for improvement.
- Approachable and non-judgmental.
- Possess active listening skills and the tools to engage in conversations about inclusion and the complexities of identity (religion, gender, class, sexual orientation, race, culture).

Training:

- The Peer Mentor will be trained as a Certified Peer Specialist and will complete the GIFT Training of Trainers.