



has an opportunity for a

Peer Support Specialist (Full-Time)

Western Youth Services is a leading expert in children's mental health and wellness solutions. As a hub of children's mental health in Orange County, we've been providing services and programs for our community for over 50 years. Our passionate and dedicated staff deliver services and programs that prevent, treat and heal our kids and families and increase their ability to live full and productive lives. If this sounds like you, and you meet the qualifications for this position, please send us your resume.

Provides active, hands on, one-on-one support meetings to youth and parents/caregivers to empower change, develop recovery strategies and plans, coping methods and rehabilitation strategies with the client and family.

Responsibilities:

- Assist in arranging support groups, monitoring behavior and activities, reports conflicts or deviations and liaising with the care team.
- Provides feedback and documents progress toward the rehabilitation plan. Support is provided in tandem with the clinician to ensure services are coordinated and delivered seamlessly.
- Responsible for providing education, training, and direct interventions to youth and family members as appropriate while upholding strict confidentiality of client information.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in a mental health discipline or related field (Counseling, Psychology, Social Work, Human Services).
- Minimum two years' experience in client-related services in mental health. May substitute 30 semester units in counseling, psychology, or social work for one year of experience.
- Valid driver's license and own transportation.
- PSS training and certification required. (Training and certification can be part of the onboarding process.) At least one year of experience as a Peer Support Specialist preferred.
- Excellent verbal and communication skills.
- Highly compassionate and attentive to detail.
- Practice regular self-care. Knowledge of recovery resources such as community support groups.
- Experience as a parent or caregiver of a youth with emotional or behavioral challenges, or recovery challenges and has managed to successfully navigate the system and be positively impacted by support services.
- Awareness and demonstration of sensitivity to diverse socioeconomic and multicultural backgrounds.
- Reliable and dependable.

- Ability to organize and follow through with tasks.
- Computer literate with Microsoft Office Suite, Outlook, Word, and Excel applications.
- Bilingual preferred.

Benefits: Comprehensive employee benefits package includes: Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, Long Term Disability and 403(b) Retirement Incentive & Savings Plan.

Western Youth Services' Mission: Advancing awareness, cultivating success, and strengthening communities through integrated mental health services for children, youth, and families.

Western Youth Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer and seeks to recruit and retain a diverse workforce to maintain the excellence of Agency service to the community and to offer richly varied disciplines and perspectives.