



Our Future Starts  
With *you!*

**POSITION:** Peer Advocate (HELPS) - (Street Psychiatry, Health Home)

**DEPARTMENT:** Albany County Department of Mental Health

**SALARY:** \$43,201 (Full Time – Street Psychiatry) or \$24,687 (Part Time – Health Home)

**WORK LOCATION & HOURS:** Albany, NY – 35 Hours

**BENEFITS:**

- ▶ Generous Paid Time-Off
- ▶ NYS Retirement System
- ▶ Work-Life Balance
- ▶ Health, Dental, Vision and Hearing
- ▶ Tuition Reimbursement
- ▶ Public Service Loan Forgiveness

**DESCRIPTION:**

Peer advocate work includes providing guidance, mentoring, and aid in removing barriers/obstacles to behavioral health recovery for individuals at any stage of recovery from (and/or co-occurring) mental health or substance use disorder issues. The Peer Advocate will assist others in improving their functioning across the areas of living, learning, working, and socializing. Utilizing their recovery expertise, professional training, and lived experience, they will help individuals become more independent as well as connect them to much-needed recovery and treatment resources. They will work alongside clinical staff, helping individuals achieve their goals. The work is performed under the supervision of the program coordinator and administrators, as well as with other program staff with the Albany County Department of Mental Health and/or partner agencies. Does related work as required.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: *EITHER:***

- A. Possession of a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma AND possession of a Certified Peer Recovery Advocate (CRPA) credential; OR,
- B. Possession of a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma AND possession of a NY State Peer Specialist Certification.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: At time of appointment and throughout employment:**

- Successful clearance of criminal background check facilitated through New York State Office of Mental Health.
- Successful clearance from the State Central Registry in the New York State Office of Children and Family Services **and** the State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (Background investigations are conducted by the appointing authority).
- Possession of a valid New York State driver's license.

**Please submit your resume and copies of certifications with this application.**

**POINT OF CONTACT FOR INQUIRIES:**

amna.siddiqui@albanycountyny.gov

Candidates will not have to take an exam for this title. This is a Hiring Emergency Limited Placement (HELP) Program-designated title. The HELP Program is a temporary program designed to help local government employers address current staffing issues. Traditionally, the titles filled under the HELP Program required job candidates to compete in a competitive exam to be considered for employment. For the duration of the program, this title will be classified as non-competitive and categorized as a "HELP Program" position. At the close of the program, this position will revert to competitive class status. Employees occupying positions filled through the HELP Program will be granted competitive class status without the need to participate in a competitive exam.

