

Peer Bridger – Recovery Peer Specialist Fresh Start of Miami-Dade, Inc.



Salary

\$16.00 Hourly – Part-Time, 20hrs/wk

Location – Fresh Start of Miami-Dade, Inc. (FSMDI) and South Florida State Hospital (SFSH)

This position is primarily located at FSMDI in Miami Gardens, Florida and will function as a Peer Bridger (Recovery Peer Specialist) between FSMDI, SFSH and the community providers. The Peer Bridger will engage the person served within 7 days of being determined discharge ready and attend all treatment team meetings for their person served until they are discharged from SFSH. The Peer Bridger will receive the monthly Treatment Team Schedule from FSMDI and SFBHN. Each Peer Bridger will be working 20 hours per week. Their time will be spent attending SFSH Treatment Team meetings, engaging discharge ready individuals through independent visits in SFSH, and continued engagement and face to face (or via Phone or Virtual) weekly visits in the community.

****Due to COVID-19, adjustments will be made accordingly based on the demand of the position. Peer Bridger will transition to engagement through Telephone/Virtual platforms as deemed necessary.****

The most important factor is working with the assigned Community Mental Health Center and Case Manager to ensure the discharged individual can continue medication management and treatment services. The Peer Bridger will assist the person in attending all psychiatric or healthcare appointments by arranging transportation and/or accompanying the person to their appointments (as determined necessary). Peer Bridgers will not be transporting individuals in their personal vehicles. The CMHC community case manager and the Peer Bridger will communicate so that the individual's stability and quality of life are prioritized.

The Peer Bridger will visit the person in the community or conduct Telephonic/Virtual contact with each person on a weekly basis. The frequency of visits may change depending on the person's stability and recovery plan goals. The Peer Bridger functions as a role model through sharing their own lived experience with behavioral health issues in a way that will inspire hope, encouragement and help to foster recovery and resiliency for the people they serve. The incumbent will provide trauma-informed, strengths-based services and supports. Some people have been in SFSH for many months, even years. Therefore, the rate of "success" will be different for everyone. A person's success in the community is based on how they define success for them, not how other people define their success.



Who May Apply: This position is open to all qualified candidates that meet the minimum qualifications. Fresh Start of Miami-Dade, Inc. values diverse perspectives and life experiences. FSMDI encourages people of all backgrounds to apply, including people of color, women, LGBTQ, young adults, people with disabilities, and veterans.

WORK SCHEDULE/CONDITIONS: To Be Determined

RECRUITER: Sandra McQueen-Baker: smcqueenbaker@fsmdi.com

Job Duties

- Peer Bridgers will:
 - Build supportive relationships with SFSH persons served, emphasizing the development of trust, mutual respect, encouragement and emotional support through sharing lived experience as a person in recovery from behavioral health conditions.
 - Provide assistance in identifying and linking to community-based services and supports (primary care, mental health and or substance abuse treatment, housing, financial benefits, etc.) Provide assistance with transportation to appointments.
 - Help to facilitate a "warm hand-off" to a community behavioral health provider, including sitting in on intake appointments (if requested by the individual), helping the individual to connect to peer support and other ancillary support services offered by the agency such as housing, employment, etc.
 - Help the individual to identify and/or re-engage with family, friends, and other natural supports and other community resources such as recovery or spiritual communities, etc.
 - Assist the individual with their adjustment to living in the community.
- Provide group support at FSMDI (recovery groups, double-trouble, daily life skills training, WRAP, etc.)
- Provide education and resources that support wellness, self-care, self-determination, self-advocacy, WRAP and shared health care decision making.
- Participate in weekly team meetings and conference calls as is required by FSMDI.
- Assist the Peer in assessing/developing personal Recovery Capital towards sustaining Recovery.
- Collaborate with community providers regarding specific individual needs and goals.
- Complete all documentation requirements, including data logs, clinical notes, etc., in a timely manner.



- Perform other related duties as assigned.

Experience, Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills

1. The person in this position will have personal history of recovery from mental health, substance use or co-occurring disorders and be willing to disclose when necessary.
2. Credentialed as a Certified Recovery Peer Specialist (or achieves certification within one year) with at least 2 years of recovery and/or sobriety and overall wellness.
3. Expert knowledge of behavioral health recovery and peer support principles and practices.
4. Enthusiasm for peer support and the belief that recovery is possible for everyone.
5. High School Diploma or GED equivalency.
6. Outstanding interpersonal skills, including the ability to work in a cooperative and collaborative manner as a team member and develop working relationships within FSMDI and SFSH as well as with providers and other stakeholders.
7. Outstanding communication skills, ability to listen with compassion and to address sensitive issues in a caring, supportive manner.
8. Ability to help set mutually beneficial boundaries with individuals.
9. Knowledge of inpatient psychiatric services, including SFSH.
10. Good organizational skills, ability to plan/perform work independently and as part of a team while managing a caseload of 10 to 14 individuals.
11. Knowledge of and experience providing services for persons from diverse cultural backgrounds.
12. Ability to write clear and concise notes and correspondence.
13. Demonstrated ability to gather data.
14. Ability to work flexible hours as needed.
15. Demonstrated proficiency in 2010 Microsoft Office Suite and the internet.
16. Valid Florida ID.
17. Ability to pass a post offer/pre-employment Level II Background Check.
18. Desired: Demonstrated knowledge of and experience working with services provided Miami-Dade County public behavioral health recovery -oriented system of care.
19. Ability to drive throughout Miami-Dade County and the South Florida State Hospital and Treatment Facility
20. Take part in trainings as specified by FSMDI