

# Employment Opportunity: Parent Support Partner

<b>Program:</b> Lifespan Services	<b>Office Location:</b> Bangor. Work may be performed in the home or in community settings throughout Van Buren County.	<b>Status:</b> As needed - generally less than 20 hours per week.
<b>Union :</b> No	<b>Benefits:</b> No	<b>Beginning Pay:</b> \$13-16 per hour

## Basic Responsibilities:

Utilizes personal experience, strong connection to the community and knowledge of resources, services, and supports in the CMH system to: function as a parent advocate; assist families to obtain necessary supports and services in an active, involved manner; coach, support, and encourage family members to use their own voice to express their views clearly; and educate the family about diagnoses, services, and resources to assist them in making informed choices.

## Summary of Required Qualifications:

- High school diploma or GED; the ability to read and write in order to comprehend written directions, complete documentation, and follow group curriculum.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Personal experience raising a child with SED or I/DD and navigating the community mental health system.
- Ability to obtain/maintain all Parent Support Partner (PSP) certifications.
- Experience, training, or education in human services preferred.

## Summary of Essential Job Functions:

- Provides peer delivered support to parents of assigned youth in a reflective, objective, and non-judgmental manner. Facilitates parent/family access to services and assist with system navigation.
- Teaches parents/family members skills to effectively manage day to day challenges of raising youth with IDD or SED.
- Builds and nurtures relationships with families and others working with families.
- Supports parents and family member's participation in family centered practices; person centered planning, and treatment.
- Provides information to increase the caregiver and family's understanding of their child's needs, CMH access, the assessment process, and family centered practices and community resources.
- Participates in family centered practice/person centered planning process and assists in development of goals related to PSP support in the Treatment Plan.
- Provides information to the family so they can make informed choices on what is best for the child/family to drive the process.
- Educates and assists families to organize and prepare for meetings so their voice can be heard.
- Attends meetings with families and staff meeting as requested or needed.
- Partners with Case Manager/Family Support team as a collaborative advocate.
- Uses strength-based approach to guide the family into developing a vision.
- Serves as a mediator, facilitator, or bridge between families and agencies.
- Provides documentation as requested by the team and the agency in a timely manner.
- Communicates with and educates agency staff on family voice and choice.

## To apply, submit a cover letter and resume by email to:

Contact: Christine Schlabaugh, Personnel Specialist, [cschlabaugh@vbcmh.com](mailto:cschlabaugh@vbcmh.com)  
**Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 249, Paw Paw, MI 49079**