

## Employment Opportunity: Youth Peer Support Specialist

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

### Basic Responsibilities:

Acts as a support and resource for youth with serious emotional disturbances (SED). Works with youth one-on-one or in group, supporting them in achieving goals through shared activities and interventions. Supports youth empowerment by assisting youth in developing skills to improve their overall functioning and quality of life and working collaboratively with others involved in delivering the youth's care.

### Summary of Required Qualifications:

- Be an adult between the ages of 18 and 28.
- Willing and able to self-identify as a person who has or is receiving mental health services as a youth, and is prepared to use that life experience in helping others.
- High school diploma or GED; the ability to read and write in order to comprehend written directions, complete documentation, and follow treatment plans.
- Valid Michigan driver's license and an approved driving record in accordance with agency policy.
- Knowledgeable about systems that serve youth and how to access useful resources in the community.
- Possess basic computer proficiency skills and strong communication skills.
- Experience receiving services as a youth from complex systems that serve children and families (behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice, special education, etc.) preferred.

### Summary of Essential Job Functions:

- Supports youth in meeting their treatment plan goals and provides safe transportation.
- Teaches self-advocacy, problem solving, and independent living skills.
- Co-facilitates youth groups focusing on goals as specified in treatment plan.
- Actively participates with the treatment team to meet youth needs.
- Prepares youth to fully participate in their own meetings and treatment planning process (including Wraparound, Family Centered Planning meetings (IPOS, IEP meetings, etc.)
- Provides consultation and education to individuals and groups about youth culture and perspective; problem-solving techniques; and promotes acceptance while reducing stigma about mental health.
- Serves as a role model and empowers youth to build understanding in others about their unique mental health needs.

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

Contact: *Christine Schlabaugh, Personnel Specialist, cschlabaugh@vbcmh.com*

**Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 249, Paw Paw, MI 49079**

**Equal Opportunity Employer**