

Family Support Partner Job Announcement

Use your personal experience in finding services and support for your child to help other youth and families—become a Family Support Partner!

Support Partners assist by helping youth and families identify strengths, assess needs and further develop their self-advocacy, wellness and resiliency skills. Family Support Partners help youth and families successfully connect with community resources, including support and treatment.

Family Support Partners serve families with children up to age 22 who experience one or more of the following: emotional, behavioral, mental health and/or substance use challenges; contact with the social services system or juvenile justice or court system; or who require emergency services or long term community mental health and other supports. Diagnosis not required.

Job Title: Family Support Partner

Job type: Part-time and Full-time positions

Hourly rate: \$18.00

Locations: Counties of Fairfax and Loudoun; Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church

Employer: NAMI Northern Virginia

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Serve as a peer partner and coach to families navigating behavioral health systems and other formal and informal community resources, ensuring families have the information they need.
- Work collaboratively with team coordinators/facilitators, including Intensive Care Coordinators (ICC) to provide High Fidelity Wraparound care or other team-based care for identified clients, if the family is engaged with these services.
- Support the voice and choice of the youth and family through modeling the effective presentation of ideas and suggestions during team meetings.
- Assist the youth and family in strengths and needs discovery, and promote and reinforce strength-based strategies. Mentor and coach families to act on strengths and use setbacks to increase resiliency.
- Build trust with parents/caregivers by engaging in a confidential, respectful, non-judgmental, and supportive relationship. Listen to and validate each family member's perspective, feelings and values, allowing everyone to be heard.
- Help families understand their child's needs and services. Help families understand and manage information received related to diagnosis, treatment, and services.
- Support parents/caregivers and encourage them to continue to have hope and effectively use family and community support and learn skills to parent children so they become empowered and effective adults.
- Participate in connecting family with a variety of support services for parents/caregivers such as support groups, family activities, and other resources.

- Participate in evaluation, monitoring and other evaluation processes, including but not limited to Wraparound Fidelity Monitoring, as appropriate.

QUALIFICATIONS

This position requires an individual to have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Further, basic administrative skills are essential to support data tracking and reporting requirements. To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required.

EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE

Required:

- Must be the current or former biological or adoptive parent or person in the parent role who has been the primary caregiver of a child with emotional, behavioral or mental health and/or substance use challenges.
- Must have experience navigating Virginia behavioral health systems with their child.
- High school diploma or GED

Preferred, but not required:

- Participation in wraparound intervention or in family team meeting as a parent/caregiver of a child with emotional, behavioral or mental health and/or substance use challenges.
- Bi-lingual (Spanish or Korean) speaking
- College degree

PERSONAL SKILLS, QUALITIES, APTITUDES, AND PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to articulate the experience and appropriate perspective of a parent/caregiver of a child with complex needs and provide support to other families with similar challenges.
- Ability to engage and collaborate with people from diverse backgrounds, maintaining a non-judgmental attitude towards youth, families and professionals.
- Ability to accept supervision and work as part of a team.
- Ability to be flexible and adapt to change, as well as respond to crises.
- Ability to follow the norms and policies of NAMI Northern Virginia and client agencies.

CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Current valid driver's license with acceptable driving record and proof of auto insurance coverage.
- Must be able to pass background checks. NAMI Northern Virginia is a drug-free workplace.
- Must attend and pass required trainings and maintain certifications, including Family Support Partner and related trainings and First Aid/CPR certification.

HOW TO APPLY

Send resume or CV, along with cover letter that includes a summary of your direct experience as a parent/caregiver, to info@nami-nova.org with the subject line: Family Support Partner application

***Family Support Partner Services are provided in partnership
with the Counties of Fairfax and Loudoun, Virginia, DBHDS and SAMHSA.***