

**POSITION: Healthy Connections Peer Navigator**

**REPORTS TO: Healthy Connections Project Manager**

**STATUS: Exempt**

Broward Healthy Start Coalition, Inc., (Coalition) is a nonprofit 501(c) 3 corporation located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida that leads a cooperative community effort to reduce fetal and infant mortality and improve the health and developmental outcomes of infants, childbearing women, and their families in Broward County.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

Broward Behavioral Health Coalition, in partnership with Broward Healthy Start Coalition, was awarded the Regional Partnership Grant (RPG) Round 7 award- ***Healthy Connections for Moms and Babies***. The project’s focus is on systemwide change to reduce harm associated with in-utero substance exposure, thus decreasing the number of substance-exposed newborns and child welfare impact and removals. The project will engage and retain pregnant persons in peer support and navigation, focusing on increasing recovery capital, while addressing the social determinants of health.

This position is a Peer Navigator, designed for an individual with an active recovery process from a substance use or alcohol use disorder, seeking to support pregnant women on their recovery journey. This position will work with birthing hospitals, prenatal and other medical providers, community organizations and other partners, to connect enrolled women to behavioral health treatment, perform case management responsibilities such as access and linkage to employment opportunities, housing stabilization supports, and educational resources, and any other desired support services that support the recovery process. The position is part of a research study that uses the evidence-based practices of Motivational Interviewing and Wellness Recovery Action Plan and follows fidelity to the models. The position reports directly to the Project Director.

**PRIMARY DUTIES**

* Provide peer support in an environment of giving and receiving help, founded on key principles of respect, shared responsibility, and mutual agreement on what is helpful.
* Perform home visits and other face-to-face visits at hospitals, medical offices, or other locations with pregnant women with substance use disorders to facilitate and engage them in the treatment process.
* Utilize a case tracking system for documenting services provided to the families to ensure coordination of services.
* Initiate Plan of Safe Care and ensure the plan is transferred to the home visiting provider for ongoing updates and tracking.
* Schedule multidisciplinary case review meetings as needed to discuss and coordinate the client’s care plan and regularly involve the client for input throughout the process.
* Perform case management activities as needed during crisis situations.
* Conduct assessments to identify housing, education, and employment needs, and obstacles to stability.
* Work closely with Healthy Start Care Coordinator and/or Supervisor to ensure client receives coordinated services.
* Provide advocacy and referrals relative to housing stabilization.
* Work closely with the Department of Children and Families, Broward Behavioral Health Coalition, BSO Child Protective Investigations, prenatal healthcare providers, behavioral health treatment providers, internal Coalition staff, and others to facilitate services and support for families.
* Engage client, gather data, and use that data to determine what opportunities clients are seeking in order to place them in the appropriate education program and employment opportunity.
* Match job skills with applicant qualifications and refer qualified applicants to employers and conduct necessary follow-up when applicants are placed in positions.
* Engage in the cross-sector network by participating in local meetings, to build relationships and acquire resources that will assist families in the recovery process.
* Perform other related work as required.

**Knowledge, Skills and REQUIREMENTS**

* Knowledge and experience of substance use disorders.
* Ability to engage and support families experiencing substance use.
* Ability to perform home visits or other face to face visits to facilitate peer support and treatment linkage.
* Ability to actively participate in committees.
* Proficiency in Microsoft Office computer applications (Excel, Word, PowerPoint).
* Ability to represent the Coalition in the community in a professional manner.
* Knowledge of local health and human service system and providers.
* Excellent communication skills orally and written.
* Exceptional interpersonal skills.
* Ability to work independently as well as within a team.
* Ability to work flexible hours when needed to meet the needs of families and the community.
* Requires reliable transportation, valid drivers’ license, good driving record and automobile insurance for regular travel throughout Broward County.
* Adheres to HIPPA guidelines.
* Requires occasional travel in Florida for training and conferences.

**EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND EXPERIENCE**

* High school diploma or associate degree are acceptable with at least three years of peer engagement and support experience.
* Certified Recovery Peer Specialist (CRPS) preferred.
* Minimum of one year of recovery preferred.
* Personal or familial impact related to pregnancy and substance use and the effects.
* Personal or familial impact related to the child welfare system.
* A minimum of three years of professional experience in the government or non-profit sector.
* Experience working with racially and ethnically diverse communities, organizations, and agencies.
* Experience providing behavioral health peer engagement and support.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

Must be able to sit for an extended amount of time.

Must be able to bend and stoop.

Frequent use of keyboard and telephone.

Occasional lifting up to 25 pounds