

NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING, INC.

Do you remember when you believed you could make the world a better place? Are you interested in making positive changes in our community? Do you want to work closely with people who are excited about what they do? Then consider this...

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Immediate posting

PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY, RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

LEWIS COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE, JAIL SETTING – The Mental Health Peer Advocate is responsible for assisting people with mental health disabilities to maximize their independence, effect community change and be involved with executing broader agency and community advocacy goals. Equal employment opportunity.

**Send resume and cover letter to
Northern Regional Center for Independent Living,
7632 N State Street, Lowville, NY 13367**

Job Summary:

1. Promote and provide advocacy services to recipients of mental health services in the community and at Lewis County Jail
2. Assist people to learn and apply for benefits entitlements such as social security, vocational assistance, social services, housing assistance, adult and child protection services, home health care and personal assistance services, person in need of petitions, Medicaid and food stamps – as much as possible, before reentry to the community
3. Complete all reporting and record keeping as required including daily data entry in NRCIL's management information system
4. Provide Self-Help and Advocacy Training programs and support groups
5. Model and initiate the learning of self-advocacy skills and the Independent Living Philosophy
6. Promote positive public attitudes toward mental health services and the recipients thereof, so as to counteract the negative stigma and resulting discrimination
7. Provide systems advocacy in order to insure that services are responsive to recipients needs
8. Participate as appropriate in regional and statewide recipient organizations
9. Advocate in recovery-based systems for training and employment programs for consumers
10. Engage consumers to become involved in NRCIL programs and participate in Center activities and advocacy efforts

Desired Qualifications Overview: Associates' degree and minimum 3 years work experience preferred, or appropriate combination of skills, experience, and education. Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills. Should have interests in disability rights and familiarity with the independent living movement. Preference will be given to applicants who have personal experience with a disability; bilingual or second language (American Sign Language, Spanish) a plus. EEO.

Organization Overview: Northern Regional Center for Independent Living is a peer-run disability rights and resource center that promotes efforts to end discrimination against people with disabilities by partnering with the community to create an accessible, inclusive society.