

## **Exponents: Overdose Prevention Initiative (OPI) Peer Mentor**

Our OPI are funded through NYS Office of Addiction Services Support (NYS OASAS) funding. The intent and mission of the program is to identify and connect People Who Use Drugs (PWUD) to harm-reduction-based information and drug safety materials that allow them to identify and address their risks and/or concerns associated with their drug use.

Exponents seeks one additional individual to assist the Director of Special Projects and Community Engagement Specialist in the strategizing, implementation, reporting and monitoring of harm reduction-based efforts. Exponents will assist interested peers with completion of NYS HIV Peer Certification or Certified Peer Recovery Advocate process if candidate doesn't possess certification.

OPI Peer responsibilities and qualifications are listed below:

### Responsibilities include:

- Respectfully engage persons who use drugs (PWUD) to provide an overview and the benefits of engagement in our harm reduction activities
- Conducting informational tabling and outreach at venues identified and engaged by program management with input from our Visioning Board & Queer Youth Advisory Board (Q-YAB) members.
- Engaging persons experiencing street homelessness in encampments across the city.
- Assisting with informing and routing potential participants to appropriate service providers for engagement higher thresholds of engagement (on-site)
- Providing drug safety materials (i.e., safer smoking and injection kits, Fentanyl Drug Testing Strips and Narcan overdose reversal kits.
- Peer co-facilitation of workshops/ on substance abuse prevention/elimination, the impact of mental wellness, HIV Prevention & Treatment, HIV Testing, STIs, PrEP/PEP Navigation and Linkage to Care, Identifying and Addressing Stigma, etc.
- Providing accompaniment to program clients to appointments made in partnership with the participant to assess referrals not available on-site, including medical services.

### Peer Mentor Qualifications:

- Completion of (or willingness to complete) the ARRIVE training (2012 or after) which focuses on HIV prevention, safer sex, recovery readiness and harm reduction.
- Judgement-free, culturally affirming service delivery;
- H.S. diploma or equivalent;
- Must have a strong interest in working with members of the PWUD community.
- Lived experience with drug use, homelessness and/or incarceration
- Must have strong communication skills
- Must have excellent interpersonal skills
- Ability to work late nights and weekends

### P/T

\$15.00/hour; 15hrs/wkly maximum

**To apply:** Please send resume to Donald R. Powell, Sr. Director of Programs & Development: [dpowell@exponents.org](mailto:dpowell@exponents.org) . In addition, all applicants must write a personal statement in lieu of a cover letter addressing why they are passionate about working with the populations mentioned and how this

work would relate to their future career aspirations. Please send personal statement to Mr. Powell as well: [dpowell@exponents.org](mailto:dpowell@exponents.org)

**Agency Description:**

Exponents is a multi-service organization residing in the heart of New York City compassionately dedicated to serving those impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance use, incarceration and behavioral health challenges. We deliver these services through a client-centered, strength-based approach which greatly improves health outcomes and promotes overall wellness in our communities.