

**PEER COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SUPERVISOR**  
**35 HOURS PER WEEK (FULL TIME)**

The Fund for Public Health in New York City, (FPHNYC) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is dedicated to the advancement of the health and well-being of all New Yorkers. To this end, in partnership with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), FPHNYC incubates innovative public health initiatives implemented by DOHMH to advance community health throughout the city. It facilitates partnerships, often new and unconventional, between government and the private sector to develop, test, and launch new initiatives. These collaborations speed the execution of demonstration projects, effect expansion of successful pilot programs, and support rapid implementation to meet the public health needs of individuals, families, and communities across New York City.

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

*Friendship Benches NYC Department of Health*

Friendship Benches NYC serve as non-traditional public meeting spaces installed with aims to reduce mental health treatment gaps by using peer health workers to deliver problem solving therapy, a cognitive behavioral therapy based technique, provided on a primary care level to address depression and anxiety, and motivational interviewing to support strength based approach to identify opportunities for self-care. These non-traditional counseling spaces can also facilitate referrals to social services and ongoing care, cultivate social cohesion through creative programming, and serve as pop-up stations for health promotion.

Friendship Benches have been proven to enhance community engagement, increase access to care, reduce symptoms of depression and anxiety and increase social cohesion. The provision of services, workshops, lay worker training, and employment established through shared leadership and cross-sector partnerships can improve outcomes of complex mental health interventions and reinforce community power, individual efficacy and localized networks to support self-care.

*The Thrive NYC Friendship Bench Project aims to:*

- Implement task-shifting model to increase access to mental health care
- Address depression and anxiety and improve self-care
- Connect with hard to reach population and build social cohesion
- Increase access to social services through referral and tracking support

## **POSITION OVERVIEW**

The Peer Community Health Worker Supervisor will serve as a counselor and referral specialist for residents and community members through the activation of the Friendship Benches and referrals from partnering programs. Peer community health workers will be trained to provide one-on-one mental health coaching sessions to help resident participant's identify alternative approaches to solving problems, accessing social services and identifying signs and symptoms of common mental illnesses like depression, anxiety and substance use. Sessions will be held either at the Friendship Benches or public community events. With shared life experience, the Peer Community Health Worker Supervisor will serve as a supervisor to the peer cohort as well as a counselor, educate participants about self-help techniques and teach effective coping strategies and symptom management skills and assist in the referral of community support systems and networks.

The position will be located at 42-09 28<sup>th</sup> Street Long Island City, NY 11101

## **REQUIREMENTS**

- Ability to work a flexible work schedule -- evenings and weekends
- Ability to work independently, be flexible, and handle changing workload with multiple projects and changing priorities
- A strong commitment to engage residents on a personal level and be able to get agreement on future health commitment/goals
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Model positive mental health management behavior
- Work Environment: 50% Community, 10% Formal Supervision; 40% Office

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Ensure, track, and report out on proper onboarding of all new peer community health workers (CHW)
- Shadow peers to provide support while in the field
- Design and utilize a shadow assessment form
- Develop and utilize administrative supervision form for peer supervisees
- Provide mental health coaching support to walk-up visitors and individuals referred to the Friendship Benches
- Engage and document interactions with community members in local action center catchment areas to model requisite engagement and documentation skills
- Maintain referral and visitor session notes; complete engagement data as needed

- Connect community members to community, clinical, and social services
- Complete tasks including documentation, coaching, and health education in accordance with organizational guidelines, goals, and strategy
- Provide weekly case conferencing and administrative supervision with peer community health workers
- Engage in weekly supervision with Friendship Benches Director to assess performance and track productivity
- Participate in approved group advocacy and community mobilization activities at activated sites
- Assist with administrative needs of the program, as directed
- Serve as a positive example and representative of the organization, internally and externally
- Provide regularly held group capacity building skills sessions
- Assist with Friendship Benches data collection efforts, as directed

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- High school diploma or GED; Bachelor's degree preferred
- Bilingual preferred (English/Spanish or English/French) but not required
- NYCHA residents strongly encouraged to apply
- Strong relationship builder with excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Experience providing supervision, coaching, mentoring, adult learning, counseling, outreach, workshop facilitation, and/or group/community presentations preferred
- Experience working with marginalized populations preferred
- Experience managing a team preferred
- Healthcare related experience is a plus
- Knowledge and familiarity with NYCHA systems is a plus
- A commitment to collective action and community organizing
- Peers with lived experience strongly encouraged to apply

## **SALARY AND BENEFITS**

FPHNYC offers a comprehensive benefits package. The salary range for this position is commensurate with experience and education.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

There is a potential for this position to transition to DOHMH, and therefore candidates must meet DOHMH eligibility requirements including NYC residency.

**TO APPLY**

To apply, send your resume with cover letter, including salary requested and how your experience relates to this position [here](#). We ask that you do not contact our staff directly and no phone inquiries please. Applicants who best match the position needs will be contacted.

**The Fund for Public Health in New York City is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages a diverse pool of candidates to apply**

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