



Community Linkage Specialist

REPORTS TO: Outreach & Linkage-to-Care Manager

SUPERVISES: None

EMPLOYMENT STATUS: Full-time Regular, Non-Exempt

PRIMARY FUNCTION: The CLS position is focused on improving health outcomes of recently released HIV positive individuals from New York State Prisons through continuous engagement with medical care and support services from 30-days up to 6 months after discharge after being released in coordination with the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DoCCS) medical / Discharge Planning Unit (DPU) to address reentry needs and benefits navigation.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Interaction with project partners both in person and via phone - such as DoCCS, funder, medical personnel, parole and probation staff - in order to establish connection to care.
- Provide phone-based, pre-release contact to enroll soon-to-be released HIV positive men and women, then document, track, and submit status report on HIV positive participants (engagement, treatment adherence, and viral load/CD4 count)
- Conduct post-release intakes and risk/behavior health screenings on participants
- Follow a Linkage Action Plan for each enrolled participant, which is inclusive of medical care, support services (housing, entitlements, substance treatment, employment, etc), prevention/behavior interventions, and ensures care coordination with NYSDoCCS Medical/DPU and outlines steps to address any care engagement and treatment adherence barriers.
- Document participant progress and files in hard-copy and electronic form client files in accordance with funder and The Alliance for Positive Change documentation expectations.
- Attend a minimum of two (2) Agency events for clients and one agency fundraising event every 12 months.
- Other duties as required to meet the mission of the agency and/or the Prevention Department.

QUALIFICATIONS: Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree and have 2 years of relevant experience or an Associate Degree with 3 years of relevant experience. Strong knowledge of medical and social stigma attached to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Strong oral and written communication skills and computer skills (Microsoft Office, email, case documentation systems). Experience providing case management services for HIV+ individuals a plus. Certification in the ARTAS, Motivational Interviewing, Case Management, Trauma Informed Care, and/or HIV Confidentiality intervention a plus. Experience working in a correctional facility preferred, but not required. Bilingual Spanish a plus.