

## **Ohio START Family Peer Mentor – Child Protection Unit**

<b>Department:</b>	Clinton County Job and Family Services
<b>Employment Status:</b>	Full-Time
<b>Hours:</b>	Mon-Fri. 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Flexible schedule)
<b>Probationary Period:</b>	365 Days
<b>Reports to:</b>	Child Protection/Ohio START Supervisor
<b>Starting Pay Range:</b>	\$17.99-\$22.93 per hour (Based on experience and education)

An Ohio START (Sobriety, Treatment, and Reducing Trauma) Family Peer Mentor is to provide peer support to help families navigate through Children Protective Services as well as other systems while also providing hope and motivation to promote healing to keep children safe and families together. This Individual serves families referred by the Child Protective Unit due to child maltreatment with substance abuse being the primary risk factor. The Ohio START Family Peer Mentor serves as a member of the local START team along with the Ohio START Caseworker and Ohio START Supervisor within the Child Protection Unit. This Individual must be reliable and hardworking with great communication skills.

### **Essential Job Duties/Responsibilities:**

- Participating as an active member of the Ohio START team.
- Working jointly with the Ohio START case worker and behavioral health providers to ensure seamless and efficient delivery of intensive wrap-around services to the START families on his or her caseload to assist with the safety of the child(ren).
- Participating in initial meetings, weekly status meetings, and Family Team Meetings to review families' progress and child safety in their respective cases.
- Providing continual exploration of diverse family needs to empower the family to take ownership over their long-term successes and the safety of the child(ren).
- Supporting the parent(s) in achieving personal independence and empowerment skills through promoting self-advocacy.
- Teaching families the skills to effectively navigate to the child welfare system.
- Promoting coordination and linkage among providers within local community.
- Coordinating or helping in crisis interventions and stabilization of families.
- Identifying barriers (internal and external) to full participation in community resources and developing strategies to overcome those barriers.
- Providing input for court proceedings and case plans for child safety as needed.
- Transporting families and children for purposes treatment, visitation, and other miscellaneous appointments as needed.
- Attending and participating in required Ohio START trainings and functions in addition to other relevant learning opportunities.
- Building relationships and connections with a variety of community providers to provide education about the Ohio START program.
- Completing timely, accurate case documentation and entering data into various computer systems.
- Communicating regularly in writing and verbally with various professionals to advocate for families and children.

## Minimum Qualifications

- Must be able to complete essential job duties above.
- Demonstrates long term recovery (at least 2 years is required, three years is preferred) from a Substance Use Disorder (SUD).
- Comfortable communicating with diverse populations in various environments.
- Quality organizational skills and multi-tasking abilities.
- Able to follow verbal and written instruction and policies.
- Valid Ohio Driver's License required liability auto insurance, and reliable transportation.
- Regular and predictable attendance; adhere to all agency policy and procedure.
- Have earned a minimum education level of GED.
- Demonstrate no ongoing criminal activity.
- Have lived experience with the child welfare system either as a parent or child, with the case closed at least one year or if do not have direct experience with Children Services, be able to describe how your substance use affected your children and family.
- Background checks consistent with requirements as outlined in OAC 5101:2-5-09 must be completed prior to employment.

## The START Family Peer Mentor should have knowledge or be able to attain knowledge of:

- Alcohol and drugs (pharmacology)
- State and Government procedures
- Behaviors associated with addiction
- Court processes
- Diversity
- Ethics
- Family dynamics
- Family Team Meetings
- Human behavior
- Local resources and services
- Maintain confidentiality
- Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Pathology of addiction
- Process of recovery
- Ohio START Program
- Self-help programs
- Signs of child abuse and neglect
- Trauma Informed Care
- Treatment options

## The START Family Peer Mentor should have skills in:

- Advocacy
- Coaching
- Communication (listening, verbal, nonverbal, written)
- Computers
- Coping
- Crisis intervention
- Cultural competency
- De-escalation
- Driving
- Motivational interviewing
- Multi-tasking
- Negotiation
- Networking
- Observation
- Organization
- Parenting
- Problem solving
- Professionalism
- Setting personal/professional boundaries
- Time management

**To apply:** Please send a cover letter, resume, and 3 professional references to [Amanda.Randolph@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Amanda.Randolph@jfs.ohio.gov)

*NOTE: This job description is not intended to be all inclusive and may be changed at any time with or without notice. It not a contract of employment, express or implied. Job responsibilities may include other responsibilities as assigned by immediate supervisor, department head, or elected official.*

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