

PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR FRIENDSHIP BENCHES

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

The newly created Center for Health Equity, within the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, seeks to advance health equity across the City. The Center focuses on these key areas: leveraging community assets to better integrate primary care and public health to serve the health needs of communities; building inter-agency collaboration to implement multi-sectorial approach to addressing the root causes of health disparities; and increasing organizational capacity that strengthens the agency's lens of addressing health equity.

POSITION OVERVIEW

Reporting to the Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Communications in the Division of the Center for Health Equity, Bureau of Division Management, working closely with the Division of Mental Hygiene and Mental Health Service Corps, the Program Director for Friendship Benches will be responsible for leading program development, including but not limited to tracking and reporting for Friendship Benches and collaborative planning with the Neighborhood Behavioral Health Team, in partnership with the Mental Health Service Corps.

Other responsibilities include but not limited:

- responsible for leading program development, applying an anti-racist clinical and social justice lens to the programs' community mental health strategies as well as providing ongoing clinical supervision for peers and community mental health workers.
- work closely with his or her team to design community engagement strategies for disinvested communities experiencing the highest burden of systemic and structural racism, chronic disease and structural violence touching on a variety of focus areas.

This position is **currently supported for two (2) years**, contingent on the availability of funding and is housed within the DOHMH's Division of the Center for Health Equity and work closely with the Division of Mental Hygiene and Mental Health Service Corps.

Working Conditions: 70% Office, 30% Community and Supervision

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work closely with Friendship Bench Program Administrator and Program Manager to monitor and track reporting on Friendship Bench activity, impact, reach, evaluation staff and peer performance and engagement.
- Coordinate and collaborate with existing Center for Health Equity place-based programs, including, but not limited to, Friendship Benches, Harlem Health Advocacy Partners, New York City Teens Connection, By My Side Douglas, and manage the tracking of promotion and utilization of Mental Health resources and referrals made through the Friendship Benches;
- Work with the Peer Supervisor to design and implement a strategy for building peer capacity and awareness of peer workforce expansion in New York City as directed.
- Work closely with Behavioral Health Team to develop, implement and maintain a place-based program for maternal depression screenings, as well support the inclusion of mental health programming into other Family Health Suite initiatives, in coordination with the Department's Birth Equity Initiative team;
- Work closely with Director of Mental Health Strategies, Center for Health Equity Leadership, and Division of Mental Hygiene to maintain a place-based program for naloxone distribution in coordination with Neighborhood Health Action Center staff, as well as co-located partner organization staff;
- Work closely with coordination with Mental Hygiene ThriveNYC initiatives and other interdivisional collaborative efforts as they emerge or are identified;
- Provide bi-weekly supervision and support the capacity of peer community mental health workers (CHWs) for mental health programming by providing skill-enhancement trainings, developing responsive action plans that support delivery, and communicating the value and utilization of CHWs in place-based mental health interventions;
- Consult on how mental health programming can be better integrated with agency efforts focused on violence as a public health issue and support tertiary prevention programs to evolve into primary prevention programs;
- Support the inclusion of mental health components in Center for Health Equity programming as they emerge or are identified, in consultation with the Division of Mental Hygiene.
- Work with Thrive NYC Outreach Team and Mental Health First Aid to ensure implementation of Mental Health First Aid trainings in the Neighborhood Health Action Center neighborhoods, including, but not limited to, tracking and reporting metrics, supporting participant recruitment efforts, and coordinating activities across sites;
- Work as needed across the Strategic Planning and Communications Unit to support MH messaging, programming and community engagement.

REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will have a passion for racial and health equity, social justice, quality behavioral health for all and diverse stakeholder inclusion.

- Flexible work schedule, regular evenings and weekends required
- Demonstrated experience developing and implementing mental health programs in place-based settings, Demonstrated experience in overseeing joint-projects with community partners and external agencies.
- Demonstrated experience with community engagement and pursuing collaborative opportunities for health and mental health promotion.
- Ability to work independently, be flexible, and handle changing workload with multiple projects and changing priorities
- Working Conditions: 70% Office, 30% Community and Supervision
- Strong relationship builder, with excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- A commitment to collective action and community organizing;
- Experience providing coaching, mentoring, adult learning, counseling, outreach, workshop facilitation, and/or group/community presentations preferred;
- Experience working with marginalized populations preferred;
- LCSW preferred, MSW, MHC or related degree acceptable;
- Healthcare related experience is a plus;
- Bilingual preferred (English/Spanish or English/French) BUT NOT REQUIRED;
- NYCHA residents strongly encouraged to apply;
- Knowledge and familiarity with NYCHA systems is a plus

LOCATION

Position is located at The New York City Department of Health's Gotham Office in Long Island City at 42-09 28th Street.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

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

TO APPLY

To apply, send Resume, with Cover Letter, including salary requested and how your experience relates to this position, to publichealthjobs@fphnyc.org indicating "Program Director_your name" in subject line.

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