Office of Consumer Affairs Potential Contract Position for Community Development Specialist

From: Shantz, Shereen, HSD

The Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA) is re-focusing its vision for the Fiscal Year 11 (FY11). During the next year the OCA will focus on developing Recovery Wellness Centers. These centers will be completely consumer run and driven and will be developed as 501C3’s; a non-profit organization. Each of these centers will have its own board and each director will be a member of the consumer advisory board for the OCA.

This re-direction will include the closure of the New Mexico Connections to Wellness as all of these funds will be redirected to the development, creation and continuation of Recovery Wellness Centers and Drop-In Centers. Many of the current Drop-In Centers have the potential to become Recovery Wellness Centers and are strongly encouraged to develop their facilities into Recovery Wellness Centers. The OCA views Drop-In Centers as a critical component for individuals in recovery and seeking recovery and plans to provide assistance to the Drop-In Centers which are currently in existence.

There will be a select number of individuals who currently have contracts with New Mexico Connections to Wellness funded through the OCA who will be granted contracts for the Fiscal Year 2011. These individuals will have contracts for only FY2011. After FY2011 there will no longer be consumer grassroots initiatives funded by the OCA as these contracts will be funded through the Recovery Wellness Center in the Region.

For FY2011 the OCA has openings for Community Development Specialist positions. A Community Development Specialist must have the ability to connect with a wide variety of stakeholders in communities and collaborate in a professional manner with individuals. These positions are available to Adult Consumers of Behavioral Health Services, either past or present. Strong preference will be given to Certified Peer Support Worker, or in the process of obtaining this certificate.

Potential candidates for this position will have a computer knowledge base with Internet accessibility, excellent communication skills (both written and verbal), ability to work well with supervision. In addition, a car in good working order is necessary as statewide travel will be required and individuals will need to be flexible. Some of the deliverables for this position include: responds to emails and phone calls on a timely basis; documentation and reporting requirements and many others. Tasks for this position will include, but will not be limited to: assist in determining what communities will be developed in FY11 as an initial pilot; assist in the development of the OCA advisory board, work closely with the OCA in developing communication, and assist in the overview of the Community Organizers.

Interested Candidates need to write a letter of interest and submit it along with a current resume no later than June 4th, 2010. Decisions will be made and announced by June 30th. Please submit all documents to the attention of Shereen L. Shantz; Program Manager of OCA Shereen.Shantz@state.nm.us via fax to 505-476-9277.