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courtinnovation.org

Research. Development. Justice. Reform.

Courtney Bryan, Director

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
Manhattan Justice Opportunities
Social Worker, Felony Alternative to Incarceration

The Center for Court Innovation is a non-profit organization that works to create a more effective and humane justice system by performing original research and helping launch reforms around the world. The Center creates operating projects that have been documented to reduce the use of jail and prison, assist victims of crime, and strengthen communities. Nationally and internationally, the Center performs original research and provides consulting services to justice innovators.

The Center for Court Innovation is seeking a Social Worker to join a team of staff—including social workers, case managers, and a peer navigator—who work with defendants participating in the Manhattan Felony Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) Court. The ATI Court, which is led by Administrative Judge Ellen Biben, seeks to forge a new response to individuals charged with felonies by linking them to community-based social services. The Court is the first of its kind, providing an innovative model for other jurisdictions seeking to develop and implement meaningful post-conviction sentencing options for individuals facing felony charges.

Reporting to the Clinical Director, the Social Worker will be part of a team that provides neutral, third-party assessments and case management services to the ATI Court. The Social Worker will be responsible for conducting independent clinical assessments, providing referrals to community-based services, offering comprehensive clinical case management, and monitoring participant compliance.

An essential and dynamic feature of the Social Worker's role will be close collaboration with key stakeholders. The Social Worker will work regularly with the judge and court staff from New York County Supreme Court who oversee the Felony ATI Court, as well as with other stakeholders, including the Manhattan District Attorney's Office and New York City defense organizations. Court-based social work is an exciting, unique and demanding area of practice, and the Social Worker role involves navigating and constructively engaging with differing and, at times, competing stakeholder perspectives. We strongly encourage and seek applications from women, people of color, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities as well as individuals with prior contact with the criminal justice system.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Conduct detailed risk-need profiles and clinical assessments for potential felony ATI Court participants;
- Develop treatment recommendations for services for potential ATI participants to court stakeholders (judge, defense counsel, prosecutor and court staff);
- Provide comprehensive, clinically-informed case management services to a caseload of pre-plea and court-mandated ATI participants to help address issues such as substance use, mental health issues, trauma, domestic violence, housing and vocational needs, and other challenges in a participant's life (e.g. new arrests, family court cases and other civil legal issues);
- Make appropriate community-based referrals for a variety of social service needs;
- Manage and monitor compliance with treatment mandates, including care coordination with providers;
- Provide written treatment updates for court stakeholders for all court-involved participants;
- Participate in regular interdisciplinary case conferences with court stakeholders;
- Coordinate with court stakeholders on any non-compliance issues and assist clients in getting back into compliance, including re-engaging clients, arranging return on warrants, and implementing graduated responses to encourage future compliance;
- Facilitate and help to develop and/or revise curricula for a range of on-site psychoeducational groups and individual case management sessions;
- Attend court on calendar days, as needed, to help clients navigate court and collaborate with court staff and stakeholders;
- Collaborate and maintain strong relationships with key stakeholders, including the resource coordinator, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and other court and programmatic staff;
- Assist with toxicology testing and reporting, as needed;
- Provide crisis intervention and de-escalation, as needed;
- Provide voluntary referrals to community-based services, as needed;
- Establish and maintain linkages with community partners who can support program work;
- Assist the Clinical Director with the development and implementation of new initiatives; including best clinical practices, and appropriate evidence-based interventions;
- Enter and maintain appropriate up-to-date participant information, including assessment, case management, and case outcome data;
- Provide clinical services as described above to program participants on a voluntary basis post-mandate;
- Participate in clinical group supervision, staff meetings, and trainings, as scheduled;
- Attend evening community-based meetings and events, as needed;
- Assist with other programmatic and administrative tasks to support the Felony ATI Court's activities, as needed.

Qualifications:

- LMSW, with a minimum of 4 years in criminal justice and/or a related field. Experience in a court or criminal justice setting preferred;
- Knowledge and/or lived experience related to the criminal justice system and its impacts on communities;
- Willingness and ability to work collaboratively with a variety of court personnel and on-site partner agencies in a high-pressure/fast paced work environment;
- Skill and openness to constructive engagement with differing and, at times, competing stakeholder perspectives;

- Commitment to, and experience using, holistic and strengths-based approaches, meeting “participants where they are”, as well as the ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds in a culturally-competent manner;
- Experience working with drug/alcohol treatment, mental health services, co-occurring disorders, trauma-informed and strengths-based approaches strongly preferred;
- Experience working with and addressing the specific needs of young adults, LGBTQ+ people, and women strongly preferred;
- Excellent organization and time management skills;
- Strong writing and verbal communication skills;
- Knowledge and/or lived experience related to the criminal justice system and its impacts on communities, and
- Bilingual (English-Spanish) preferred.

Position Type: Full-time

Compensation: Salary range for licensed candidates starts at \$54,000 and is commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits package including comprehensive health, dental and life insurance, four weeks paid vacation, paid sick time, TransitChek, Flexible Spending Account plans for health and dependent care, a 403(b) retirement plan and a 401(k) retirement plan with a generous employer match.

Location: Manhattan, New York

How to apply:

Click [here](#) to apply!

The Fund for the City of New York/Center for Court Innovation is an equal opportunity employer. The Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, national origin, age, military service eligibility, veteran status, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or any other category protected by law. We strongly encourage and seek applications from women, people of color, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities as well as individuals with prior contact with the criminal justice system.

In compliance with federal law, all persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and to complete an employment eligibility verification document form upon hire. Only applicants under consideration will be contacted. No phone calls please.

Date Posted: 6/1/2020

Deadline to Apply: 07/28/20

Visit our website at www.courtinnovation.org.

The Center for Court Innovation is a project of the Fund for the City of New York.