



Office of
Mental Health



New York
Psychiatric Institute



COLUMBIA

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY



Suicide Prevention Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) Opportunity

Your experience matters. Help shape better mental health and suicide prevention services for individuals and families on Staten Island.

Description of Opportunity

In partnership with the New York State Psychiatric Institute (NYSPI) and the New York State Office of Mental Health (NYS OMH), Partnerships for Community Wellness (formerly Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness, SIPCW) is inviting adults to join its Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB).

LEAB brings together people with personal or family experiences of mental health crises and suicide-related challenges to advise Staten Island's Suicide Prevention Task Force. Members help identify gaps in care, improve access to mental health resources, and recommend practical changes to how individuals and families receive support during and after a mental health crisis.

Time commitment: Approximately 2 hours/month | Compensation: \$25/hour | Term: 1 year

Who Can Join?

We welcome adults with different types of lived experience, including:

- Individuals who have personally experienced a mental health crisis, suicidal thoughts, or suicide attempts.
- Parents and caregivers who have supported a child through a mental health crisis, psychiatric hospitalization, or suicidal behavior.
- Individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide.

People of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply, including people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, veterans, and people living with disabilities.

No professional mental health experience is required. Your lived experience is what matters, and members are never expected to share more of their personal stories than they feel comfortable sharing.

LEAB aims to provide a welcoming, respectful, and supportive environment where members' perspectives are valued and their contributions help shape meaningful change.



About Partnerships for Community Wellness

Partnerships for Community Wellness is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building a healthier Staten Island. The organization leads and coordinates Staten Island's Suicide Prevention Task Force and its Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB), bringing together community members, healthcare providers, and local organizations to strengthen suicide prevention, improve access to mental health services, and ensure that the voices of people with lived experience help shape community solutions.

Learn more: www.partnerships.nyc

Responsibilities

Members will:

- Participate in LEAB and Suicide Prevention Task Force meetings.
- Identify gaps in mental health and crisis services, including access to care, navigating services, and support following hospitalization.
- Help develop or review accessible educational materials, resource guides, and community awareness initiatives.
- Share lived experiences and recommend practical ways to make services more coordinated, compassionate, and responsive to families.

Time Commitment and Compensation

Members serve for one year, with the possibility of one-year extensions during the four-year grant period. Participation averages approximately 2 hours per month, although time commitments may vary from 1–5 hours depending on meetings and activities.

Members receive a stipend of \$25 per hour for eligible participation and are expected to attend at least two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of scheduled meetings.

How to Apply

Interested in making a difference? We encourage you to apply!

Apply by October 30, 2026, using the QR code below or the [LEAB application form](#).

Questions about LEAB or the application process? Contact Karina Weinstein, LEAB Facilitator, at karinaweinstein@gmail.com.

