

Compeer



The WJCS Compeer program

offers supportive one-to-one friendship/mentoring relationships, in which a volunteer is matched with an adult who is in mental health treatment and has been referred by a mental health professional.

Volunteers spend time with their matches doing things they both enjoy, from taking walks and watching movies to attending sporting and cultural events. Volunteers and their Compeer friends are also invited to program-sponsored group events, which provide opportunities for socialization and growth outside of their matches.

Volunteers!

The Compeer program is volunteer-based. Volunteers are screened, trained and receive ongoing supervision and support from Compeer staff.

“Compeer is an exceptional organization that uses the power of friendship to support recovery from mental illness... Compeer and its outstanding services have been promoting personal independence and recovery from mental illness in New York State for nearly 40 years.”

—Michael F. Hogan, PhD, as Commissioner
NYS Office of Mental Health

Friendship

Friendship is about being there for someone. But for people with mental illness, there is often no one to turn to when they need a friend.

That's where Compeer steps in.

A pioneer in mental health advocacy, Compeer Inc. is a non-profit organization with more than 50 chapters that match volunteers from the community with individuals in mental health care. Compeer of WJCS is a local affiliate empowering these people to become more socially integrated and to combat their loneliness, isolation and low self-esteem.

Because WJCS does not charge for Compeer services, our program depends upon the generous support of corporate and community partners, government agencies and individual contributors for funding. These funding sources—and our greatest resources, our volunteers—have helped Compeer make friends and change lives for over 40 years.



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