

# Allilsa Fernandez

Northwell Health



Allilsa Fernandez graduated magna cum laude from Stony Brook University in December 2018 with a B.A. in psychology, despite being told she would never be able to attend school because of her struggles with psychosis. Allilsa is currently a volunteer member with Sylvia Rivera Law Project working in Shelter Organizing, which meets with the Department of Homelessness to address policies surrounding Trans, Gender non-conforming and disability.

She is also a volunteer member with Met Council, working on addressing Housing insecurities and tenants rights, especially at the intersections of poverty, people of color, and disability, and she works as a Peer Specialist in Lenox Hill Hospital.

She is also a consultant for Facebook on Mental Health and Disability Policies and currently is working with district attorney candidate Janos Marton on mental health policies and the carceral system. She founded Peer Mental Health Alliance, an organization that provides resources, peer-to-peer support and creative arts programming, which aims to end the stigma.

Through her activism, Allilsa fought for and assured ADA compliance at Stony Brook University. In 2020 she completed a law fellowship with the Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy and Innovation, and during the pandemic Allilsa created a Facebook

group called Mental Health Pandemic to address the mental health needs surrounding COVID-19, and helped found Disability Underground which addresses healthcare advocacy and mutual aid surrounding COVID-19. Her work has been featured in mainstream media such as Forbes Magazine.