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Charity BN/Registration # 89971 7961 RR0001

Peer Support Worker

PSO is a membership based, peer support organization of present and former psychiatric consumers/survivors who meet: for mutual support, to learn about our rights and ensure they are respected, to find alternatives to traditional psychiatric services, to support our dignity and self-respect, to educate professionals and the public on our needs and concerns, to change how the mental health system treats us by having our experiences and expertise respected in the mental health system and to build a strong consumer/survivor community.

Position: Peer Support Worker

Reporting To: Recovery Connections Program Manager

Salary and Hours: \$23.50/hr (30 Hours per week) – plus 6% in lieu of benefits during probation

Please submit your covering letter and resume by **12:00pm, Monday, July 18th, 2022** and address it to the attention of the Hiring Committee. *No phone calls please.*

Job Summary:

The peer support worker position acts as a peer liaison to people using inpatient mental health/substance use services, or accessing the Emergency Department for mental health or substance use related reasons. The degree to which the worker is sited in either of these settings will depend on defined priorities of the hospital.

The worker will provide non-clinical one-to-one and group support in addition to sharing expertise derived from having personal experience with the mental health and/or substance use systems. The focus of this position will be on using a model of intentional peer support to engage clients, provide support and mentorship through supportive listening, share knowledge on peer support, and empower individuals by sharing information about tools such as WRAP to facilitate a smoother transition as the client accesses and leaves hospital-related services.

Duties and Responsibilities

Provide non-clinical one-to-one support to clients who are accessing hospital services for mental health and/or substance use related reasons.

1. Provide non-clinical self-help groups to people in inpatient mental health and/or substance use units. Additional groups, co-facilitated with hospital staff, may also be provided.
2. Provide support and expertise to the planning, implementation and facilitation of other groups or activities offered by the hospital.
3. Serve as a role model for clients by supporting and promoting recovery within the context of peer support services.
4. Support and empower clients in seeking out the information related to their hospital stay and discharge.
5. Ensure their activities and actions are consistent with hospital policies and procedures.
6. Take responsibility for Professional Development and participate in any relevant training and/or information sessions.

7. Work with other Team Members and partner organizations to address emerging issues in hospital and community settings.
8. Participate in education, evaluation and research activities within the context of the of family/peer support services
9. Outreach and collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to build awareness of, and promote peer support and family support

Competencies

1. Experience as a client of mental health and/or substance use inpatient hospital services, and a demonstrated ability to share this expertise in the context of empowering others.
2. Background in Mental Health, Advocacy or other Social Service work would be an asset. Life and work experience will be considered, as will a demonstrated commitment to ongoing education. Training certifications in programs such as WRAP, or a commitment to acquire these certifications, is required.
3. Demonstrated understanding of the principles and value of intentional peer support.
4. Demonstrated knowledge of peer support and family support community resources.
5. Superior communication skills that inspire empowerment and hope.
6. A good grasp of the principles of self-care, empowerment, hope, and self-determination, and an understanding of working from a strengths-based perspective.
7. Ability to work with a diverse group of people within their unique perspectives and experiences.
8. A superior ability to establish trusting relationships with others.
9. Ability to work independently and as part of a diverse team.
10. Ability to establish appropriate boundaries in order to provide a non-judgmental, confidential and respectful environment.
11. One position is bilingualism required (French/English) and one position is bilingualism preferred