



**peers**

VICTORIA RESOURCES SOCIETY

## **Temporary - Housing Support Worker**

### **April 2018 to March 2019 (12-15 hours per week)**

Peers Victoria is an innovative, multi-service grassroots agency that has been working with and for Victoria sex workers for 21 years. Through direct services delivery and partnerships, Peers provides an evolving array of outreach, harm reduction, and wellness support services. We maintain an environment that welcomes our community with respect and positive regard.

Reporting to the Executive Director, the part-time **Housing Support Worker** supports homeless people in and from the sex industry to locate and maintain housing. This is a one year long position aimed at providing case management support and relief to the main housing support worker at Peers Victoria. As such, this position is part-time with a regular schedule of 12-15 hours per week spread over three days primarily during regular drop-in hours (within the time frame of 11am-4pm). Additional casual hours will be added to this position on an as-needed basis to meet program participant demand and to enable participation in training opportunities.

#### **Specific duties for this position include:**

- Assisting individuals to locate market, supported, and subsidized housing.
- Assisting individuals to complete CASH, BC Housing and other forms related to acquiring housing and related supports.
- Liaising with income assistance workers and helping program participants to connect to services and resources in the community related to employment, culture, education, social support and volunteering.
- Liaising with shelter staff and other housing providers to provide collaborative support to participants.
- Liaising with landlords to resolve disputes and helping participants to resolve challenges in their lives.
- Meeting with individuals to discuss life and wellness goals (related to volunteering, employment, community participation, cultural knowledge) and providing to support to engage with those goals/activities.

#### **Skills/Qualities:**

- Knowledgeable about local supportive and supported housing resources and policies, including those for Indigenous populations.
- Familiar with Housing First models and the policies and practices entailed in this housing approach.
- Knowledge of a variety of local health services including hospital and community based services for a range of health needs including, but not limited to, mental health, substance use, and communicable disease.
- Understanding of trauma and disability informed care.
- Approachable, tolerant, non-judgmental, empathic, and calm in conflict or crisis.
- Thorough knowledge of safer sex and substance use harm reduction models.
- Knowledge of local social services including those related to poverty advocacy, income and food security supports.
- Strong interpersonal skills and collaborative, team oriented, ethical service approach.



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- Excellent organizational and time-management skills.
- Commitment to applying social justice principles to health and social care.
- Knowledge of diversity of local sex industry and ability to connect with target population.
- Training and professional development in social service or health care is an asset.

**Job details:**

- Hours: 12-15 per week to be carried out on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (or some combination thereof) during late mornings and afternoons with some flexibility to meet participant needs at other times of day and on weekends (i.e. for moves, unit showings etc.).
- Pay rate \$22/hr.
- Requires a valid BC driver license and will include use of personal vehicle. Peers will pay the difference on insurance to enable a higher level of third party liability coverage.
- Must have Basic First Aid, Food Safe, and CPR.
- Vulnerable Sector Criminal Record Check required.
- Position is funded through March 31, 2019.

If you are interested in this employment opportunity, please submit a resume and covering letter that summarizes your relevant experience and skills by March 12, 2018 to [peershiring@gmail.com](mailto:peershiring@gmail.com).

Applications from individuals with direct experience in any aspect of the sex industry are especially welcome. We also encourage applications from, but not limited to, indigenous persons, persons of colour, persons with disability(ies). and persons representing diverse genders and sexualities.