



peers

VICTORIA RESOURCES SOCIETY

Part-time Health Support Outreach Worker (April 2018 to July 2018)

****We invite individuals to apply to both this position and the current Housing Support worker position if interested as it may be possible for one person to fulfill both roles.**

Peers Victoria is a grassroots agency that has been working with and for Victoria sex workers for over 20 years. Through direct service delivery and partnerships, Peers provides an array of outreach, harm reduction, and wellness support services. We maintain an environment that welcoming and accessible to current and former sex workers.

Reporting to the Executive Director and working in collaboration with the regular Health Support Outreach Worker, the part-time Health Support Outreach Worker will support current and former sex workers who are affected by communicable conditions and/or have acute health needs to access health care services. Funding for the position is provided by the MAC AIDS Foundation and Greenshield Canada. One of the objectives of the program is to increase access to prevention and treatment services related to communicable conditions such as (HIV, HCV). The health support worker will work 2 to 3 days per week totaling 12 hours (primarily within the hours of 12-4:30pm, Tues-Thursday). The final schedule will be negotiated with the person filling the role taking into account program needs and availability of program staff.

Specific duties for this position include:

Day Shifts:

- Connect with persons (in/from sex industry) affected by communicable disease or acute health care;
- Assist members of target service population to access health care supports (including, but not limited to, helping to arrange appointments, providing transportation, and accompaniment as appropriate);
- Collaborate with members of the Peers service team and executive director regarding caseload and triage;
- Liaise closely with service staff in related health care organizations such as Island Health, Cool Aid Clinic, HepCBC, AIDS Vancouver Island, Vancouver Island PLWAS to ensure up to date knowledge of local service continuum, optimal client referral processes, and co-delivery of supports;
- Administer small crisis and support funds to members of the target service population that are oriented to addressing health care access barriers;
- Participate in relevant health education and research in the community in which Peers Victoria is a partner or leader and share knowledge regarding disease prevention and treatment within Peers service environment;
- Keep client service documentation as required to facilitate reporting to program funders;
- Adherence to Peers organizational policies, mission and values.

Skills/Qualities:

- Knowledgeable about current evidence regarding HIV/AIDS and HCV transmission, prevention and



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treatment. Ability to apply this knowledge as it applies to diverse population of persons in/from the sex industry and intersections of race, gender and sexuality, violence, housing, and other relevant factors;

- 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, sexual health, pregnancy and parenting 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 housing, income and food security supports;
- Strong interpersonal skills and collaborative, team oriented, ethical service approach;
- Excellent organizational and time-management skills;
- Commitment to applying social justice principles to health and social care;
- Combination of personal experience in the sex industry and/or experience of having a communicable disease such as HIV/HCV and relevant education/work experience;
- 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:

- 12 hours per week primarily within 12-4:30.
- Pay rate \$22/hr;
- Requires a valid BC driver license and may include use of personal vehicle;
- Must have Basic First Aid, Food Safe, and CPR;
- Vulnerable Sector Criminal Record Check required;
- Position is funded from April to July 2018 with the possibility of renewal subject to funding.

If you are interested in this employment opportunity, please submit a resume and a covering letter that summarizes your relevant experience and skills by March 20, 2018 to 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 people, people of colour, people with disability(ies), and people representing diverse genders and sexualities.