



Casual/Relief Peer Support Worker

The Downtown Eastside Women's Centre is a drop-in Centre offering a wide variety of services to a diverse community of women and children living in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.

Working to support DEWC Program Services, the Peer Support Worker will work in collaboration with other DEWC staff to promote integrated services to women. She is responsible to uphold and understand the principles of peer support to women in securing practical services and needs. Working with DEWC employees, she takes responsibility that policies, procedures, and operational systems are implemented and followed throughout the shift. The successful candidate must work from a feminist analysis and within a strong anti-oppression framework while managing crises in the Drop In. She must identify with the goal of addressing barriers to uphold the seamless day to day functional operations of the Centre.

Primary Responsibilities:

Peer Support: Support women in developing peer networks and peer support opportunities including by modeling peer support and self help behaviors. Coordinating opportunities for women to exchange self help and peer support strategies through workshops, forums, discussion groups, support groups etc.

Drop-In: Monitor women in the Centre using peer support & self help tools to address conflicts in the drop-in or the emergency night shelter. Use self help tools to ensure women who appear in crisis are offered appropriate supports such as medical, counseling, or advocacy. Collaborate with Centre members, volunteers, and committees to oversee the operations of the clothing room and general management of donations. Taking responsibility for a clean and comfortable environment that operates in compliance with the Centre's Mission Statement, Statement of Principles, and Policy and Procedures. Supporting women with practical needs including but not limited to: listening to women, distributing items such as menstrual pads, rolling papers, clothing, telephone, mail and access to showers.

Conflict Resolution/Crisis Management: Manage crisis between, within and among various groups and individuals including by mentoring a variety of self help coping skills and different approaches to personal situations. Maintain a culture of 'People helping people help themselves'.

Volunteer Support: Actively participate as a team member in collaboration with the Skills Development Coordinator to support, train and manage volunteers from the community. Responsible for communicating effectively and respectfully with volunteers and mediating conflicts as they occur.

In-Centre Programming: Facilitate and coordinate groups and special events that promote principles of self-help and peer support and that reflect the mission and mandate of the DEWC.

Referral: Use Peer Support & Self Help strategies to support women to receive assistance at the DEWC and/or other agencies as required.

In Centre Participation: Participate within the staff team such as attending staff meetings, staff development and training and special events. Work collaboratively with in-Centre staff to ensure effective communication and team approach in the smooth operation of the DEWC.

Required Qualifications:

- Must have a strong working knowledge and analysis of the issues impacting women in the dtes including: violence against women; mental health; homelessness; and addictions.
- Candidate must work from strong feminist analysis and within an anti-oppression framework.
- Understanding of and practices a trauma informed care response when working with women.

- Strong conflict resolution skills and practice.
- Demonstrated crises intervention training and experience.
- Excellent communication skills required, including the ability to work in a respectful and cooperative manner with co-workers, and Centre members.
- Ability to work within a chaotic environment and with a diverse community of women.
- A First Aid certificate is required.
- Candidate must undergo a criminal record check.
- Women with addiction issues need to be at least 2 years clean and sober.

Posting Details:

- Start Date: Immediately
- \$18.00-22.00 per hour
- Affiliation: BCGEU
- Department: Drop-In Centre & Night Shelter

Please submit resume and cover letter in person, via fax (604)681-8470 or email to humanresources@dewc.ca