



## **Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Job Description**

As part of the specialized service team, the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator will work with other DEWC staff to promote integrated services to women. She will support women survivors of sexual violence through trauma-informed and anti-oppressive/ anti-racism approaches.

The role will center on coordination of care to ensure seamless access to resources to support healing from violence. The ideal candidate will help bridge the existing gaps in service access and navigation women survivors who are seeking support for their healing journey connect to existing range of sexual assault response programs

### **Responsibilities include:**

- Provides trauma-informed, harm reduction and integrated linkage to internal and external support services to survivors of sexual violence and assaults;
- Establishes a working and supportive relationship with survivors and their support networks while ensuring overall safety of the woman;
- Advocates, liaises, and coordinates service access with multiple community partners to support coordination of services;  
Advocates for survivors rights as necessary and supports self-advocacy;
- Supports assessment of needs and provides case management support to link to internal and external supports including counselling, victim services, police, medical care, and other community based providers as needed;
- Devises a service plan with woman, establishes goals to meet determined needs, while providing coordination of service through culturally informed lens
- Provides accompaniment as needed including initial police interviews, medical services for sexual assault services, etc.
- Actively liaises with community service agencies, including other sexual assault response programs, to develop relationships and maintain up-to-date information about available resources
- Provides crisis counselling, as well as crisis prevention planning;
- Facilitates information sessions and support groups for women who have experienced sexual violence.
- Facilitates workshops and training with DEWC staff and other service providers to create awareness and visibility around sexual violence and assault
- Participates in community networking, advisory committees and professional development trainings as appropriate;
- Performs other related duties as requested.

## Required Qualifications:

- Two years recent related experience
- Related post-secondary undergraduate degree or diploma or extensive work-related experience under qualified supervision
- Some formal counselling training required
- Knowledgeable and skilled in trauma-informed feminist counseling practices
- Ability to work from a strong feminist analysis and within an intersectional, anti-oppression framework
- Group facilitation skills
- High degree of self-awareness and cultural competence, including the ability to adapt approaches to the cultural needs and practices of each woman
- Understanding of and strict adherence to confidentiality, policies, regulations, and procedures.
- Knowledge of relevant systems, institutions and supports for women, including gaps and barriers to services and resources
- Must have a strong working knowledge and analysis of the issues impacting women in the downtown eastside, including gender based violence, mental health, homelessness, and addictions.
- Strong conflict resolution skills and practice
- Strong computer experience and skills including using Microsoft 365 products and database management,
- 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
- Women with addiction issues, need to be at least 2 years clean and sober
- A First Aid certificate is required
- Candidate must undergo a criminal record check

Position reports to: Specialized Services Manager

## Organizational Status

The Downtown Eastside Women's Centre operates on the unceded & ancestral Musqueam, Squamish & Tsleil-Waututh Territories (*xʷməθkʷəjəm*, *Skw̓xwú7mesh*, and *səlílwətaʔ*), to provide a safe, non-judgmental environment for women from all walks of life, who live and/or work in the Downtown Eastside. To achieve this goal, DEWC provides supportive surroundings with meals, shelter, advocacy and programs which nurture and empower members. The Downtown Eastside (DTES) as a neighborhood is well-known within Vancouver and even across Canada for its disproportionate levels of poverty, gender-based violence, and extreme marginalization. Home to populations made vulnerable including those who are homeless, have mental illness, and/or addictions. It is also a place known for its creativity, community activism, and tenacity in the face of tremendous stigma.

DEWC staff are called to enhance connections and collaboration and promote an atmosphere of safety in all aspects of their work. DEWC acknowledges that our work environment is directly impacted by all forms of oppression and the impact of colonialism where staff will be witness to women's trauma and the consequences of injustice.