

Pathways to Housing Program Edmonton

Peer Support Specialist – Assertive Community Treatment Team

Summary Profile

Radius Community Health and Healing's Pathways to Housing Program in Edmonton ends homelessness for people who suffer from serious, persistent mental illness (such as schizophrenia and bi-polar disorder), usually co-occurring with addictions and medical and social problems, by:

- providing access to permanent independent housing without requiring treatment or sobriety as a precondition for housing; and
- providing outreach community support and treatment with a philosophy that is founded in the principles of consumer choice and harm reduction, using both evidence-based Best Practices and innovative approaches.

The Peer Support Specialist is part of an inter-disciplinary Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team that:

- provides comprehensive wrap-around treatment, support and recovery services;
- uses a team case management model - all team members are required to remain current with all clients, their situation, recovery program and goals, and all treatment/recovery plans are developed as a team, with clients directing their care;
- spends approximately half of their time providing generalized supports that may not be part of their professional discipline, such as providing assistance with housing, life skills and tasks of daily living.

The belief that recovery is possible for all who experience psychiatric, traumatic and/or substance use challenges is fundamental to the practice of peer support. In addition to the team case management role shared by all members of the ACT Team, as the Peer Support Specialist you will:

- work with Clients to provide emotional, social and practical supports, using your own personal lived experience with mental illness, addictions and/or homelessness/poverty as a reference.
- willing share share your relevant personal experience with Clients, in a manner tailored to build rapport and relationships, further Clients' treatment plans, and to demonstrate that there is hope for recovery.

This is a permanent, full-time position. Your regular hours of work will be 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday to Friday but some flexibility around actual work hours is required. You will be on-call approximately 7 weeks per year, providing 24-7 crisis response to Clients. You must have a valid driver's license (non-GDL) with a good driver's abstract and a reliable vehicle as you will be driving daily for Client visits, most of which occur in Clients' homes or elsewhere in the community.

Salary range is \$43,720 to \$58,589 (\$22.42 to \$30.05 per hour) as well as a comprehensive health benefits package and generous vacation leave.

Qualification Requirements

- Personal lived experience with sustained recovery regarding mental illness, addictions, and/or homelessness/poverty, is a requirement of this position
- Experience in one of more of following areas:
 - mental health services in a community treatment setting;
 - Assertive Community Treatment or other inter-disciplinary teamwork;
 - working in addictions, concurrent disorders and/or Housing First; and/or
 - providing outreach services in a 'street/inner city/chronic homelessness' environment or equivalent.
- Knowledge of best practices in
 - working with people with complex co-occurring serious mental illness, addiction and medical issues;
 - client centered, strength-based recovery treatments/rehabilitation strategies;
 - Housing First/Pathway to Housing models;
 - Harm Reduction philosophy; and
 - Peer Support.
- Knowledge and practice in integrating cultural contexts into practice and service delivery.
- Responsible, organized and efficient; solid communication/literacy skills (written, oral, computer/technology)
- A continuous learner
- Valid driver's license and use of personal car are a must for this position.

Please ensure your application outlines the nature of your personal lived experience with mental illness, addictions and/or homelessness/poverty as it relates to this position, as this is a requirement for the position.

Please apply by October 14th, 2023 via email to:

Julie Strome, Program Director
jstrome@radiushealth.ca