



LANE COUNTY
B080
Established 01/28/14
Updated 05/30/14
Updated 06/01/16

PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST

CLASS SUMMARY: Provide assistance and support for mental health consumers, their caregivers and/or family members, providing encouragement, support, information, and community connection to assist in their recovery; connect individuals to available community resources that overcome barriers to treatment participation and provide similar lived expertise and feedback from a mental health consumer perspective to the management, provider and treatment teams relative to the impact and effectiveness of provided services.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Receives general supervision from a qualified Clinical Supervisor.

TYPICAL CLASS ESSENTIAL DUTIES: (These duties are a representative sample; position assignments may vary.)

1. Provide outreach to clients to engage them in services and overcome barriers to participation in treatment.
2. Assist peers in developing personal recovery and wellness goals.
3. Offer support, encouragement and hope.
4. Share personal experiences and model effective self-help strategies.
5. Assist with access/linkage to community resources such as housing, transportation, education and employment.
6. May be required to transport consumers to appointments and activities and or make home visits.
7. Monitor program utilization

Knowledge of (position requirements at entry):

- Understanding of approaches to support others in recovery and resiliency and demonstrates efforts at self-directed recovery.
- Community resources and how to connect individuals to those resources.

Skills in (position requirements at entry):

- Understand and carry out directions and instructions.

LANE COUNTY
Peer Support Specialist (Continued)

- Maintain confidentiality.
- Provide services to adult consumers.
- Speak, read, and write English.
- Prepare documentation consistent with department standards for quality and timeliness.
- Work hours conducive to reaching the identified population.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with consumers, coworkers, and other agencies.

Training and Experience (positions in this class typically require):

Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade. Six (6) months of paid or unpaid experience as a peer advocate in a mental health system is preferred. Experience facilitating group and participating on committees is preferred.

Licensing Requirements (positions in this class may require):

- Possession of a valid driver's license at time of application and a valid Oregon Driver's License by the time of appointment.
- State of Oregon Peer Support Specialist certification.
- A Peer Support Specialist must be:
 - A self-identified person currently or formerly receiving mental health services; OR
 - A self-identified person in recovery from a substance use disorder, who meets the abstinence requirements for recovering staff in alcohol and drug treatment programs; OR
 - A family member of an individual who is a current or former recipient of addictions or mental health services.
- Will be asked to discuss recovering experiences during interview process.

NOTE: This position is represented by AFSCME Local 2831.

Classification History:

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt