

Harm Reduction Outreach Coordinator

Full-Time Regular Position (35 hours/week), Bargaining Unit - UFCW Local 175

Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre (Parkdale Queen West CHC) is a dynamic, community-based health care organization serving mid-west downtown Toronto. Offering a broad range of services, including primary health care, dental care, harm reduction, health promotion, counselling, and community development programming, we are also committed to serving people who face barriers to health care and we strive to reduce these barriers.

The **Outreach Program** aims to: **1.** Reach and increase connections and access to harm reduction, social and health supports and services for people who use drugs and are disconnected **2.** Engage and support people with intersectional experience and expertise of drug use meaningfully in program development, implementation and evaluation to meet the community's needs **3.** Provide accessible education and skills training for diverse peer workers and enhance their access to self-determined future employment and educational opportunities **4.** Build strategic relationships and capacity of service providers and community members to respond to needs of diverse drug using communities and prevent overdoses. As such, you must have strong understanding and must be able to apply **equity lens, intersectionality and social determinants of health** when developing, implementing and evaluating program activities and services.

Reporting to the Manager, Harm Reduction, and using a harm reduction approach, you'll lead the implementation and evaluation of the Outreach Program to provide support to people who use drugs with a focus on reducing transmission of HIV&HCV and overdose prevention through a variety of strategies that includes street and shelter outreach, supply distribution resource development and distribution, crisis intervention, referrals, advocacy, community education, anonymous HIV testing and recruitment, training and supporting of peer workers.

You will call on your substantial knowledge of drug use, harm reduction and HIV&HCV prevention to design and deliver targeted educational workshops to service users and providers with an intersectional and equity-based lens. You will develop professional networks, build community capacity to respond to the needs of people who use drugs and work with partners, participants, peers and the community to identify current and emerging care and support needs/service gaps, and enhance access to social and health care supports. Maintaining timely, accurate written and electronic client records, reports and correspondence and quality assurance will be an integral part of your job, which includes developing and following appropriate protocols and policies.

Qualifications:

- Substantial knowledge and understanding of drug use and harm reduction needs among diverse communities, acquired through a combination of work experience, lived experience and/or education or training
- 3 to 5 years' relevant experience in a community setting, and expertise in design and facilitation of learning strategies and educational plans for various stakeholders, and program development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Experience in working with peers and volunteers, providing training and coordination.
- Significant experience with harm reduction program delivery, values, and strategies, and in crisis response, de-escalation, conflict resolution and emergency response
- Strong background in identifying needs and gaps in community and addressing it through assessment, analysis, project planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- Strong understanding and must be able to apply **equity lens, intersectionality and social determinants of health** in client approach and program design, implementation and evaluation.
- Experience working with people who use drugs, Black, Indigenous and other racialized populations, people who are homeless and/or precariously housed people who engage in sex work, prisoners/ex-prisoners, people with mental health challenges, and people who have experienced trauma
- Familiar with community services and resources, and respect and value the diversity of communities and individuals.
- Strong communicator with demonstrated sensitivity to others, an active listener who is open, non-judgmental, highly flexible and resourceful, willing to learn, able to multi-task and confident in asserting and maintaining strong boundaries.
- Proficiency in one or more languages other than English would be an asset.

Compensation: \$57,857 to \$70,492 per annum plus Benefits and HOOPP (Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan)

If you are interested in joining in a creative and dedicated team to, we want to hear from you! Applicants, please send your resume and cover letter **in a single document** (MS Word or PDF format only). Please apply using the form at the bottom of the PQWCHC employment page: <https://pqwchc.org/contact/employment/>

Job ID: 2024-074

Please also note that the successful candidate will be required to provide a police vulnerable sector check as a condition of employment, however strong consideration is made to the type of offense. Employment is conditional upon having had a full series of COVID-19 vaccinations (2 doses) 14 days before starting employment.