



Harm Reduction Outreach Worker (Peers)

1-year contract (with a possibility of extension), 4 positions at the Parkdale site

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. PQWCHC is a multi-sited organization.

Program overview: The Harm Reduction Outreach Team at Parkdale site supports people who use drugs, access harm reduction and overdose prevention supplies and educational materials from the Parkdale and surrounding neighbourhoods and helps to link people and communities to services. The team needs compassionate and motivated people who are committed to offering respectful harm reduction and overdose prevention outreach services from an anti-racist and social justice perspective. The Harm Reduction Outreach Worker (Peer) brings their expertise and lived experience to support both the program and agency to better meet the needs of people who use substances, are street-involved, and who do sex work in the vicinity. All the peers will have the support of PQWCHC staff and ongoing training to build individual, team, agency, and community strength. The team seeks representation from Indigenous community, individuals attached to communities who use drugs, sex workers, people of African, Caribbean, Black communities.

Hiring categories: Indigenous Community focus; Overdose Prevention and Response focus; African, Caribbean, and Black focus; and Sex Worker focus (36 hours per month for each category)

Do you have:

- Personal experience and/or an awareness of substance use
- Personal experience with homelessness, sex work, mental health issues, HIV, hepatitis C or incarceration
- Harm reduction-related and peer support volunteer or paid experience, education, or training
- Ability to work 4 hours shifts including evenings and weekends
- Familiarity with Parkdale and surrounding areas, community members and drug-using networks
- Ability to build trust with folks who use drugs and/or do sex work
- Drug user positive and sex-positive attitude with anti-racist, harm reduction outlook
- Good communication skills and strong listening skills
- Ability to work independently, as well as in a team
- Ability to accept feedback, take initiative, and work independently in a culturally diverse environment
- Basic computer skills are a plus
- Ability and willingness to ride a bicycle or walk long distance carrying a backpack year round
- Ability to meet commitments around the work schedule and community needs

Compensation: \$16.36 per hour + 4% vacation pay

To apply please send your resume and cover letter **in a single document** (MS Word or PDF format only) stating the position focus you are interested in to hr@pqwchc.ca, quoting "Harm Reduction Outreach Worker-PD" in the subject line by 5pm of September 30, 2020 or to the following postal address:

Hiring Committee – Harm Reduction Outreach Worker (Peer)
PARKDALE QUEEN WEST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE – PARKDALE SITE
1229 QUEEN STREET WEST
TORONTO, ONTARIO M6K 1L2

We truly appreciate your interest; however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Please also note that the successful candidate will be required to provide a criminal reference check as a condition of employment.

PQWCHC is committed to the principles of access and equity. PQWCHC is committed to building an organization that reflects the diversity of communities we serve. We encourage applications from members of Indigenous, Black and other racialized communities; Two-Spirit, non-binary, LGBTQ people; people with disabilities; and members of other equity seeking groups. Accommodations are available on request. Parkdale Queen West CHC is in full compliance of the Ontario Human Rights Code and does not discriminate on the ground of records of offenses.