



Harm Reduction Outreach (Peer) -Trip! Project

Contract from April – December 31, 2024 (with a possibility of extension), 4 positions at the Queen West 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 Trip! Project supports diverse youth who use drugs and provides harm reduction and overdose prevention education and supplies to youth (aged 16 - 30) in Toronto and helps link youth to services. PQWCHC's Trip! Project team needs compassionate and motivated people committed to offering respectful community building, harm reduction and overdose prevention services from an anti-racist and social justice perspective.

The **Trip! Project Peer** identifies with the above, bringing their expertise and lived experience to support both the program and agency to better meet the needs youth who party in various scenes, use substances, are street-involved, or who do sex work in Toronto. All Trip! Project Peers will have the support of PQWCHC staff and ongoing training to build individual, team, agency, and community strengths.

Hiring focus: Youth with lived experience with drug use, homelessness and/or sex work, BIPOC Youth, 2SLBTQIA+ Youth

Do you have:

- Personal experience, and/or knowledge, of drugs and drug use
- Personal experience, and/or knowledge, of homelessness, sex work, mental health issues, HIV, HCV or incarceration
- Previous harm reduction-related, and/or peer-support, experience, education, or training
- Ability to work 6-8-hour shifts including evenings/weekends (Thursday evenings for meetings/trainings and Friday night, Saturday nights, and some daytime outreach, trainings or workshops as scheduled)
- Familiarity with Toronto, youth communities and drug-using networks
- An ability to build trust with youth people who use drugs and/or do sex work
- A drug user positive and sex-positive attitude with an anti-colonial and anti-racist, harm reduction outlook
- Good communication skills and strong listening skills
- Writing skills (content creation, blogs, social media, literature)
- Ability to work independently, as well as on a team
- Computer skills, & ability to connect with the team online (zoom, Google docs/calendar, Discord, etc.). Social media (Instagram/reels, TikTok, Facebook, etc.) and graphic design skills for social media posts, flyers, etc.
- Ability & willingness to do in-person and online work year-round in Toronto on a regular basis
- Ability to accept feedback, take initiative, and work independently in a culturally diverse environment
- The ability to meet commitments and community needs and be a mentor to volunteers in the project

Wage rate: \$18.78 hour + 4% vacation pay (up to 10 hours per week/40 hours per month, schedule TBD by coordinator)

To apply please send your resume, letter of interest and a harm reduction related blog post OR image or video-based flyer or social media post that you made, and contact information via e-mail to lori@tripproject.ca.

Applications may also be sent to the following mailing address:

**Hiring Committee – Harm Reduction Outreach Worker (Peers)- Trip! Project
PARKDALE QUEEN WEST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE – QUEEN WEST SITE
168 Bathurst Street Toronto, Ontario, M5V 2R4**

Application Deadline: April 19, 2024

We thank all applicants; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Employment is conditional upon having had a full series of COVID-19 vaccinations (2 doses; plus a booster within 6-12 month) 14 days before starting employment.

PQWCHC is committed to the principles of access and equity. PQWCHC is committed to reflecting the diversity of the communities it serves and we encourage applicants who reflect Toronto's indigenous, LGBTQ2, racial, and cultural diversity. We welcome and encourage applications from all qualified candidates, including people with disabilities. 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. People with experience using drugs, working in the sex trade, Indigenous people, racialized people, people from the LGBTQ2SQA community, people living with HIV, people with experiences of incarceration and institutionalization, people who have experienced trauma, and people who have experienced homelessness or street involvement will be given special consideration.