



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD2872

JOB TITLE:	Peer Support Worker	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	20161/C.VI.81502.004
CLASSIFICATION:	Support Worker 2	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	C34
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Community Subsector	HSCIS NO.:	81502
UNION:	BCGEU	JOB/CLASS CODE:	SI: 20161 CI/NI: 81502
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Mental Health & Substance Use; CY&F Mental Health and Substance Use	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	81502
REPORTING TO:	Manager or designate		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: South, Central and North Island Health Services Delivery Areas		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of Island Health (Vancouver Island Health Authority), patient and staff safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

Peer Support Workers work together with the multidisciplinary team to provide services in a flexible, compassionate and responsible manner. The Peer Support Worker provides and organizes required services and shares responsibility with the team for clients who have histories of homelessness, psychiatric disability, substance abuse, criminal justice, and other trauma.

Travel may be a requirement of this position and transportation arrangements must meet the operational requirements of the Vancouver Island Health Authority in accordance with the service assignment and may require the use of a personal vehicle.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Collaborate with client in the formulation of a comprehensive service plan that is reviewed and modified with client on a regular basis.
2. Provide outreach, counseling, advocacy, and other needed services to clients in any environment including: the streets, shelters, prisons, hospitals, apartments, office, etc.
3. Provide individually tailored services to each client i.e. housing placement, independent living skills, vocational guidance, appointment escorts, integrated substance use treatment, and family counseling.
4. Maintain written and computerized records, compile reports and complete other program documentation (including case notes, statistics, letters, psychological evaluations, etc.).
5. Assist clients to manage their monies, including preparing budgets with clients and computing expenses.
6. Coordinate and monitor referrals to community services, and advocate client participation in them.
7. Educate, inform and advocate for clients regarding benefits and entitlements (Social Security, Public Assistance, food stamps, etc.).
8. Lead groups, workshops, and in-services on topics such as substance abuse, safe sex, domestic violence, etc.
9. Provide clients with education on their consumer rights/grievance procedures with other community providers and

services.

10. Provide individual/group counseling for clients re: empowerment/self-help education/tools.

11. Assist with community integration and escort clients to community self help groups.

12. Assist with bridging the gap between community providers and clients.

13. Provide ongoing education to team members regarding the experience of individuals with mental health conditions and/or substance use disorders.

14. Performs other related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Past or current recipient of mental health and/or substance abuse services. Experience in social services, supported housing/addictions/Public Health.

Grade 12; Community Mental Health Certificate or Addiction Worker Certificate. Completion of a recognized Peer Support Training course or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience.

Valid BC Class 5 Driver's License.

Experience working with adults and youth with mental health or substance use issues.

Skills And Abilities

- Ability to apply clinical and critical thinking expertise.
- Experience in the delivery of education programs.
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision.
- Effective verbal and written communication skills.
- Physical ability to perform duties of the position.
- Ability to use an electronic file system for service delivery.
- Advanced computer skills preferred.