



JOB POSTING

Position: Peer Supporter

Application Posting Date: March 19, 2020

Application Close Date: April 2, 2020

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Stella's Place is an innovative mental health service for young adults (16-29 years). We are at a critical and exciting stage in our growth – we have laid the foundation and infrastructure for a new and engaging model of mental health care for young adults and are now delivering services (at Stella's Place, online, and in collaboration with key partners in Toronto), seeing results, and changing lives.

We are seeking a **Peer Supporter**, a role that is critical to being able to respond to the needs of young adults who walk-in, who are part of the community, or who are involved in programs. At Stella's Place, there are a range of Peer Support roles, including on-line, at the Stella's Place site, and in other locations in the community.

Peer Supporters at Stella's Place help create a welcoming community, engage and support young adults in wellness and recovery-focused activities, and provide support, information, navigation, and assistance in accessing resources. Peer Supporters work independently as well as with a multi-disciplinary team including psychiatrists, clinicians, and other peer supporters.

KEY FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Peer Support Worker responsibilities include but are not limited to:

Participant orientation, program support, and follow-up

- Provide orientation, information and navigation to engage young adults in the menu of services available and support access to internal and external resources.
- Draw from personal lived experience as a means of offering support to young adults in a goal planning process that includes recovery, wellness, crisis prevention, and self-advocacy on a one-to-one basis as well as in groups.
- Utilize a young adult-directed recovery approach along with culturally-responsive, trauma-informed and anti-oppressive approaches to ensure success for diverse populations
- Participate in programming/ activities, including low barrier drop-in programs and clinical, in order to support young adult participation; provide support before, during and after program sessions to ensure young adult success.
- Provide online support via Bean Bag Chat platform while working remotely and utilizing an on-call manager system for support and guidance

- Follow up with young adults throughout the program to support regular attendance.
- Provide leadership in-group programming including facilitation, set-up, and evaluation.
- Collaborate with young adults, clinicians, psychiatrist, peer support workers, other staff to support comprehensive assessment and the development and review of individualized recovery plans in a safe and supportive environment.
- Ensure accommodations for participants with self-identified needs
- Collaborate with the Stella's Place team to meet the needs of participants and to create a supportive, safe learning environment

Supporting Effective Processes and Operations

- Collaborate with cross-departmental staff to develop materials for evaluation, public relations, and media materials
- Maintain required documentation using strength-based, recovery-focused language related to finances, budgeting, data collection, and incident reporting in a timely manner
- Organize participant feedback for use in ongoing program development and revisions
- Contribute to the development of programming with community partners, staff, young adults, and peers.
- Attend Community of Practice and staff Meetings as required.

QUALIFICATIONS

- To be considered for a Peer Support position at Stella's Place, you must have:
- Lived experience of mental health challenges consistent with the experiences of our participant population
- Peer Support training/experience (either from Stella's Place, or elsewhere)
- Recognition of, and alignment with peer support values, principles of practice and competencies
- Prior experience working with a diverse team
- Some experience presenting within and working with groups
- Experience with group facilitation
- Experience responding to individuals experiencing distress
- Excellent interpersonal skills, and ability to engage and motivate others
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Proficiency with social media (texting; chat) and Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint); use of online platforms for document sharing
- Demonstrated experience of positive participation in team or committee work
- Demonstrated organizational skills; ability to prioritize, multi-task and meet deadlines
- Understanding of the impact of oppression and social determinants of health; demonstrated commitment to engagement of diverse communities
- Demonstrated ability to engage in critical reflective practice and respond to feedback
- Comfort with working remotely from home while supporting participants and utilizing a Manager On Call System when needed
- Some post-secondary experience
- A commitment to on-going learning

In addition, the following would be considered assets:

- Knowledge of youth and young adult mental health services and recreational resources.
- Experience with group facilitation and/participation such as WRAP, Pathways, Peer Zone, GAM
- First Aid, NVC/UMAB CPR C and ASIST training are assets

- Volunteer or paid work in a social or community service
- Experience providing online peer support through mobile-apps or social media
- The most essential qualification in this role is your personal warmth, and desire to be part of a team that works with young adults with lived experience of mental health challenges.

JOB STATUS AND HOURS

- Peer Supporters at Stella's Place work a range of different hours. To be considered for this position, you must have scheduling flexibility – i.e., availability during daytime, weekend and/or evening hours.
- You will report to the Access Team Manager, and have regular communication, coaching, and professional development with the Peer Initiative Manager.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to apply via Charity Village by April 2, 2020.

<https://charityvillage.com/jobs/peer-supporter-in-toronto-ontario-ca/>

Note: Only applicants who include cover letters will be considered.

We thank all candidates for their interest. We regret that our small organization only has the capacity to contact those selected for an interview.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ACCOMMODATION

Stella's Place is committed to having a workforce that is reflective of the diversity of the City of Toronto in general and of our participants in particular. We strongly encourage applications from: racialized persons, indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity, and all those who can provide different perspectives and contribute to diversification at Stella's Place.

Stella's Place is committed to hiring practices that are inclusive and barrier free. Stella's Place will provide reasonable and appropriate accommodation during all stages of the hiring process in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code in order to ensure the equal and fair assessment of all job applicants. Applicants are asked to make any accommodation request in advance.