OPEN POSITION: Community Health Outreach Worker

ABOUT US: Hawai‘i Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) provides harm-reduction focused services to marginalized populations in Hawai‘i, including people living with and/or affected by HIV, hepatitis, substance use, homelessness, and the transgender, LGBQ and the Native Hawaiian communities. We strive to empower the diverse communities we serve through outreach, support, and education. HHHRC bridges gaps and helps individuals access essential resources such as housing, health care, entitlements and treatment.

JOB SUMMARY: Permanent, part-time, non-exempt position with Hawai‘i Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) located in Honolulu, Hawai‘i. Expected hours is 8:00am to 4:30pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday. With the occasional schedule change to accommodate events and conferences.

The outreach worker is responsible for conducting outreach, overdose prevention, health education, HIV and hepatitis C counseling, testing and referral, distributing safer sex supplies, and distributing and exchanging harm reduction supplies for safer drug use with HHHRC syringe exchange and overdose prevention program participants.

DIRECT SUPERVISOR: Outreach & Overdose Prevention Program Manager

RATE OF PAY: $15.00 an hour

OVERALL JOB DESCRIPTION

The Community Health Outreach Worker will provide a comprehensive system of services directly and through referral, targeting people who use substances, their partners/family, and community members at high risk. The Outreach Worker is expected to perform the highest quality and appropriate, participant-centered HIV, viral hepatitis, and overdose prevention interventions and services. The Outreach Worker is expected to maintain a spirit of teamwork, and courtesy in all contacts and encounters. As needed, the Outreach Worker will assist with other tasks as assigned to meet the needs of the organization. Outreach Workers must be open, honest, punctual, detail-oriented, and organized. Being able to work autonomously is a must.

HEALTH EDUCATION, TESTING, AND REFERRALS

- Provide HIV/AIDS, STD, and viral hepatitis prevention education
- Provide overdose prevention education and naloxone distribution to program participants
- Discuss issues about general health of people who use intravenous and non-intravenous, their partners, and families
- Share information about community resources available, and successfully provide referrals (substance use treatment, medical care, social services)
- Provide HIV/hepatitis C counseling and testing
- Share practical information on proper disposal of used syringes and paraphernalia
- Share basic information concerning legal issues and challenges related to drug use
- Share practical demonstrations of safe use of female condoms, male condoms, dental dams, and lubrication

OUTREACH WITH SAFER SEX AND DRUG USE SUPPLIES

- Provide syringe exchange services at mobile van sites
- Provide street-based exchange during outreach
- Provide individual Syringe Exchange Appointments
- Engage community members on empowerment processes aimed mainly to reduce risks as active drug users and active sexual partners
- Provide syringe pick-up within the surrounding area of outreach sites
- Perform van load and unload, restock supplies as needed

**OVERDOSE PREVENTION EDUCATION**
- Teach individuals and groups how to prevent, recognize the signs of, and respond to a drug overdose
- Teach individuals how to use naloxone and fentanyl test strips

**ADMINISTRATIVE**
- Maintain van cleanliness and maintains service schedules
- Fill out various forms for outreach
- Write monthly field notes
- Data entry in an electronic medical record
- Participate in the development of alternative prevention strategies, after approval of direct supervisor

Performs other duties as needed or assigned.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT**
Job duties require Outreach Workers to spend up to 30 hours a week outdoors doing outreach and driving to meet syringe exchange participants on various parts of the island.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**
- **Education:** High school degree required; Bachelor’s degree preferred
- **Experience:** Relevant life experience and/or experience in street outreach and harm reduction preferred
- **Knowledge and Skills:** Strong interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills. Good crisis intervention and de-escalation skills. Basic computer skills required, including Microsoft Office. Knowledge of addiction and injection drug use a plus.
- **Abilities:** Non-judgmental attitude and the ability to respect the knowledge, actions and feelings of others is required. Must have the ability to deal with difficult interactions with care, compassion and assertiveness, and the confidence and ability to work independently. Ability to relate effectively to people of a wide variety of backgrounds.
- **Physical and/or Medical Demands:** The job entails many hours of sitting due to the majority of outreach being done out of mobile vans, but also includes walking long distances while conducting street-based outreach. Outreach Workers need to be able to lift 30 pounds and pull 40-pound cart on daily basis in order to restock supplies.
- **Travel:** This position requires a valid Hawaiʻi State Driver’s License as Outreach Workers are required to drive company vans for outreach. There may be limited travel to Neighbor Islands or the continent for conferences or work events.

**HOW TO APPLY**
Please carefully read and fully comply with the following. Applicants should send a resume, a letter explaining their interest in and qualifications for this position, an application (found on hhhrc.org/employment), and the names and contact information for three relevant references. Applications may be submitted via postal mail, fax or email attachment as follows: (see next page)
Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.

This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation and training.