

Job Description Peer Support Worker

Summary:

The Peer Support Worker (PSW) will utilize their lived experience to provide one-on-one non-judgmental emotional and practical support and mentorship. They will link women who may be struggling with addiction, poverty, single parenting and facing discrimination, with SCCSS programs and other community and health services that support women. They will also support and connect with women accessing the Family Resource Programs. The PSW will provide advice and guidance while acting as a positive role model. Recognizing that each woman's situation is unique, the PSW will build on that individual's strength to set goals, build their confidence, self-esteem and develop life and employment skills. The Peer Support Worker will be part of the Family Resource Program team who provide a safe and welcoming environment for families and promotes healthy pregnancies to improve maternal outcomes. The Peer Support Worker reports to the Family Resource Program Lead.

Key Duties and Responsibilities:

- Support and mentor women who may be struggling with a range of issues.
- Provide one-on-one non-judgmental emotional and practical support
- Build on the strengths of the women to set goals, build their confidence, self-esteem and develop social skills.
- Provides outreach support to women to connect them with community and health services
- Resource and Referral Information, give resource information to clients
- Advocate and Navigate - help women find services
- Works with the women in the Family Resource drop in to provide support
- Participate in the pilot project evaluation
- Facilitates connections between participants.
- Encourages positive parent participation in play activities, offering feedback and suggestions, when requested or required
- Demonstrates cultural competency working with Indigenous families and community.
- Demonstrates cultural competency working with newcomers.
- Collaborates and works respectfully with colleagues to ensure effective service delivery consistent with agency and program mandate.
- Adheres to SCCSS policies and procedures.
- Represents SCCSS in a positive and professional manner.
- Stays current with SCCSS programs and other relevant community and health services.
- Assists with other duties as required, from time to time, aiding with the efficient operation of the organization.
- Attends monthly staff meeting as set by the program Lead.

Qualifications:

- Excellent communication skills, strong professional boundaries, and flexible working practices
- A self-starter, highly organized, ability to work alone, ability to work with other staff/volunteers
- Maintaining records, statistics and registration information
- Some knowledge of resources for women and families in the community
- Demonstrates understanding and experience of working within a strength-based model of support
- Comfortable working with high-risk families and situations that may occur
- Experience working with women both pre-and-postnatal an asset.
- Emergency Child Care First Aid (including infant CPR) an asset- will provide training
- Good understanding of and experience working with vulnerable families.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate with participants in a non-judgmental and empathetic manner.
- Experience working across cultures respectfully.
- Excellent organizational and communication skills.
- Successful result and maintenance of Criminal Record check.
- Valid driver's license and reliable vehicle is required to attend programs and do outreach across the Coast.
- Food Safe certification is an asset.
- Indigenous applicants or applicants with lived experiences in the communities that we serve are encouraged to apply

Working Conditions

This position may work alone, doing outreach, one-to-one with peers with little to no supervision.

This position also works in a fast-paced community setting that includes a kitchen, multipurpose room and indoor and outdoor play areas. This position works in a variety of environments, including outdoors community settings and in a variety of communities including Gibsons, Sechelt and Pender Harbour.

Physical Requirements

Lifting and moving of program supplies and other related equipment
Lifting and holding of babies and children
Sitting and playing on the floor with infants and children

Organizational Relationships

This position reports to the Family Resources Program Lead