



NOW HIRING: Peer Support Specialist at Healing House; Full-time

Applications accepted until the position is filled

Healing House is an initiative of JustDane (formerly Madison-area Urban Ministry), Healing House is a 24/7 recuperative medical shelter for families who are unhoused and who have a family member (parent and/or child) being released from the hospital and who need recuperative care. Healing House has been open since July 2019 and can house up to 10 individuals (parents and children). Through a new, two-year grant with the National Institute for Medical Respite Care and the Centers for Disease Control Foundation, we are able to expand our supports to the families staying at Healing House to include peer support. Healing House provides 24/7 shelter staffing through our Resident Care Specialists, three meals per day, assistance with discharge and care planning, medical monitoring and assistance with medication tracking. Through a partnership with The Road Home families can access housing case management.

We are looking for a Certified Peer Support Specialist to walk side by side with our guests as they heal. Because of the ways in which our culture has criminalized poverty and homelessness, many of our guests have experience in the justice system and have experienced significant trauma. In this full-time position the Peer Support Specialist may need to help peers find resources, assist peers in determining their personal goals, provide support by listening , having authentic encouragement, reassurance and compassion.

Responsibilities:

1. Help participants explore opportunities with services, emotional growth, and life recovery goals;
2. Coach participants toward learning and practicing new recovery skills;
3. Model effective coping techniques and self-help strategies based on the peer specialist's own recovery experience;
4. Support participants in advocating for themselves to obtain effective services;
5. Teach participants how to monitor their recovery progress;
6. Provide support to individuals in crisis, or individuals needing social interventions;
7. Encourage participants to participate in social, recreational, and other therapeutic activities that enhance interpersonal skills and develop social relationships, including the development of work skills;
8. Provide a sense of belonging, supportive relationships, and community;
9. Promote wellness, independence, self-direction, and recovery;
10. Job coaching with participants seeking or who have obtained employment;
11. Selectively share personal recovery story with participants, providing hope and help in changing behaviors and patterns;
12. Maintain confidentiality;
13. Communicate with supervisors and other staff about the needs, skills, and goals of peers;

14. Commit to treating all peers with dignity, courtesy and respect.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Current State Certified Peer Specialist certification is required and must be maintained during the course of employment.
2. Experience with people with lived experience in homelessness, substance abuse and/or mental health needs, justice involvement
3. Strong interpersonal communication skills and experience working as part of recovery team.
4. Experience working with individuals from racially, ethnically, culturally, socio-economically diverse communities.
5. Creativity and flexibility are essential to work collaboratively with other community partners and employers and employees.
6. Ability to demonstrate strengths based, person-centered recovery approach and the ability to develop and maintain appropriate peer relationships that embody trust, hope, empowerment and recovery.
7. Ability to facilitate groups on wellness, personal skills, peer support, and other topics.
8. Utilize problem-solving skills, including conflict resolution, anger management and de-escalation
9. Utilizing active listening skills to assist peers in accessing and connecting with community resources and working toward their wellness goals.
10. Maintain required program documentation.
11. Have reliable transportation.
12. Pass a caregiver background check.
13. Full COVID-19 vaccination is required or employee must submit a request for medical or religious exemption and if approved, agree to weekly COVID-19 testing.

This is a full-time position 30-35 hours per week.

Starting wage: \$17.00 per hour.

Hours: generally weekdays, Monday to Friday; occasional evening and weekend hours.

Location: Healing House, Lathrop St., Madison, WI

Number of hours per week: 30-35 hours per week

Type of Employment: Full-time with full benefits

Benefits: Benefits include: health insurance (employer pays 90% of individual premium), dental, vision, long-term disability & life insurance (employer pays 100%). Employees can also purchase short-term disability insurance and additional life insurance. Employee contributed 401K plan and Flex plan available. Paid vacation, sick and holiday time.

Please send a resume and cover letter to linda@justdane.org by August 12, 2022 or mail to JustDane, 2115 S. Park St., Madison, WI 53713, Attn: Linda.

JustDane is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.