JOB TITLE: SSP Community Health Worker

PAY RATE: $17.00/hour

REPORTS TO: Center for Harm Reduction (CFHR) Manager

GOAL: To work as part of a team operating ACT’s Syringe Services Program (SSP)

WHY WORK AT ACT?

At Advancing Connecticut Together (ACT), we work to improve the lives of people impacted by poverty and economic disparities, health disparities like HIV/AIDS, homelessness and substance use issues through three programmatic divisions (AIDS CT, CAHS and CFHR). We are a non-profit organization that is passionate about our work and strive to lead through innovation, make measurable progress, collaborate for greater impact, and respect the choices of our participants.

FUNCTIONS:

- Perform daily operations of the syringe services program (SSP), including staffing the program
- Create and conduct outreach events to promote the SSP and network with community members/stakeholders in local communities
- Conduct intakes with all new clients and assessments with all clients
- Deliver harm reduction, overdose, wound/vein care and HIV/HCV/STI prevention messages and education to clients
- Employ culturally appropriate harm reduction methods when working with clients
- Provide naloxone training and distribution to clients, staff and outside agencies
- Provide referrals and facilitate linkages for testing, counseling, treatment and other needed services
- Collect accurate activity data and enter that data into the appropriate data collection system
- Receive, sign for and put away all SSP supply shipments, including turning in all packing slips
- Conduct supply inventory to assess supply needs and work with the CFHR Operations Manager and Director to order supplies in a timely manner
- Box up used syringes and work with Center for Harm Reduction Manager and Director to coordinate biohazard waste pick-up
- Conduct weekly van maintenance checks which includes interior, exterior and fluid checks
- Other duties and responsibilities as assigned

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Knowledge of substance use/abuse, harm reduction and HIV/HCV
- Belief in harm reduction principles
- Comfortable talking with people of varying cultures, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, socioeconomic status, people who inject drugs, people living with HIV, etc.
- Comfortable receiving and distributing syringes
• Comfortable distributing safer smoking kits, fentanyl testing strips, naloxone/Narcan, wound care kits, condoms, lubricants, etc.
• Comfortable working in a sex positive environment where HIV/STIs, sexual behavior and prophylaxis are routinely discussed
• Familiarity with groups disproportionately affected by substance use and HIV/HCV
• Ability to work in a fast-paced environment with minimum supervision (face to face/virtual)
• Ability to lift up to 50lbs
• Excellent oral and written communication skills and ability to effectively communicate with groups prioritized for services in their own environments to provide education on infectious conditions, prevention, risk reduction and treatment
• Creativity, flexibility and ability to work as part of a team
• Excellent time management skills
• Certified HIV/HCV tester preferred
• Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred
• Flexibility with schedule as there may be a need for occasional weekend and evening hours
• Must have reliable transportation, a valid driver’s license and a clean driving record

WHAT WE OFFER FULL-TIME (35 hours per week) EMPLOYEES:

• Dedicated, diverse, and friendly co-workers
• 12 agency holidays
• Generous Paid Time Off (PTO) policy
• Agency-subsidized medical, dental, and vision coverage and 100% paid short-term/long-term/life insurance
• 403(b) retirement plan with employer match of 100% up to 3% of pay
• Free off-street parking

SOUND LIKE A GOOD FIT?

If so, please send your thoughtful cover letter and resume to apply@act-ct.org with “SSP Community Health Worker” in the subject line. Resumes received without a compelling personalized cover letter will not be considered. Candidates will be considered on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Due to the anticipated volume of responses, we will contact only those top candidates who most closely match our requirements.

Advancing CT Together, Inc. celebrates diversity and inclusion and is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.