



**Canadian Mental
Health Association**
North and West Vancouver
Mental health for all

North and West Vancouver Branch
300-1835 Lonsdale Avenue
North Vancouver, British Columbia V7M 2J8
Phone: 604.987.6959 Fax: 604.980.0336

Peer Navigator, Sunshine Coast (11 hrs/week)

CMHA NORTH AND WEST VANCOUVER

Our vision: Mentally healthy people in a healthy society

Position Summary

In accordance with established vision, mission, focus and values of the agency, the Peer Navigator is a first point of contact and provides mental health and addictions information to clients, families and the community at large. The Peer Navigator provides support for adults seeking help by sharing their own lived experience and service recipient knowledge of the mental health system to assist clients as they seek to successfully access and navigate community supports and resources, and work to self-identify needs. **This is an in-person role at our Gibsons-based Drop-in Service on the Sunshine Coast.**

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Establishes a dignifying and purposeful relationship with the client, and clarifies the role of the Peer Navigator
- Assists clients to access community integration activities and services
- Supports clients to advocate for themselves
- Assists clients in obtaining information and appropriate referrals within and outside CMHA programs and services
- Works with volunteers when appropriate
- Prepares and maintains written and computerized records and completes other program documentation, including statistics, completing incident reports
- Maintains an awareness of current community resources including health care services, social, economic, recreational, employment, educational services and resources, and other agencies: utilize the information to assist the client to access services and problem solve with the client as required;
- Works collaboratively with the CMHA team to create, launch and facilitate groups
- Completes as many as possible of the following courses: First Aid/CPR, Mental Health First Aid, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Training, Suicide Awareness Training or any other training as deemed appropriate by the employer
- Other related duties as appropriate and required

General Duties:

- Attends weekly staff meetings, committee meetings and others as required
- Submits regular activity reports, timesheets, expense forms, etc. as required
- Represents the agencies in a professional manner
- Provides coverage for other program staff as appropriate and required

Skills and Abilities:

- The primary personal attribute necessary to provide quality peer support is lived experience with a mental health challenge or illness accompanied by the experience of finding a path of recovery.



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- Ability to engage clients
- Ability to establish and maintain rapport and appropriate boundaries with clients and their families
- Thorough knowledge of mental health recovery, harm reduction principles and trauma-informed practice
- Knowledge of Sunshine Coast community resources and programs
- An understanding and the ability to apply anti-oppression practice
- Ability to model, instruct and demonstrate life skills
- Ability to observe and recognize changes in clients
- Ability to use effective interpersonal skills to establish/maintain effective working relationships with coworkers, the public and other agencies
- Ability to promote positive change and independence
- Conflict resolution and crisis intervention skills

Qualifications

- **Current resident of the Sunshine Coast**
- Lived experience of accessing the mental health and addictions systems;
- Diploma in Community Social Services
- Completion of a recognized Peer Support Worker training program
- Recent related work experience with an emphasis on mental illness/substance use
- First Aid/CPR (required)
- Mental Health First Aid, Non-violent Crisis Intervention and Trauma-informed care training are assets
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing
- Ability to work independently and organize, prioritize, analyze and problem solve
- Working knowledge of MS Office applications (Word, Excel, Outlook) and the internet

A criminal record check for working with vulnerable sectors is required upon hiring.

Hours of Work and Considerations

Reports to: Assistant Program Manager

Location: Salvation Army: 682 Gibsons Way, Gibsons BC

Hours of Work and Special Considerations: 11 hours per week. Some evenings required. The Peer Navigator splits their time between providing drop-in coverage and scheduled appointments to assist clients. Drop-in is Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Peer Navigator will be required to wear a mask indoors and follow CMHA's Covid-19 policies.

We are an equity employer and encourage applicants from women, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people, people of all sexual orientation and genders and others who may contribute to our further diversification.



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How to Apply:

Please submit a cover letter and resume detailing your experience and qualifications to: elaina.moss@cmha.bc.ca by 12 pm, April 22nd 2021.

****Please submit a cover letter with your resume. Applications without a cover letter will not be considered.****