



Recovery Peer/ Peer Support Specialist

Haywood Street Respite

Haywood Street Respite aims to be a safe place for unhoused adults to rest and recuperate following a hospital stay or other acute illness. In our home-like setting, individuals are allowed to rest and recover, while also receiving help to navigate their next steps in life. This includes support for mental health and recovery services.

Haywood Street's motto is "relationships above all else". Individuals staying in Respite are not clients, they are our "Friends".

Recovery Peer, Haywood Street Respite

The Recovery Peer is someone who has successfully managed their own recovery from substance use/mental health challenges and homelessness. The Recovery Peer is tasked to empower and support Friends on their recovery journey. The ideal candidate will embrace all paths to recovery, including the Harm Reduction model. The Recovery Peer will often work independently, but also collaborate with the whole Respite team.

Reports to: Haywood Street Respite Director

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Hold out hope for recovery for Friends struggling with substance use and/or mental health challenges.
- Empower Friends to recognize their strengths and resources for overcoming these kinds of challenges.
- Assist Friends with creating recovery plans that are right for them, using a harm reduction lens.
- Help Friends identify and access community-based resources that support health and wellness for persons in recovery.
- Engage in recovery dialogue / self-help sessions with Friends.
- Model and assist with skill building around effective coping / self-help techniques.
- Assist Friends with tangible needs, such as obtaining a drivers license or applying for SNAP benefits.
- Assist with healthcare and behavioral health system navigation.
- Guide Friends in the development of a Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) as they have interest and willingness
- Use motivational interviewing when attempting to engage Friends to develop their own wellness pathway and priorities.
- Handle some of the logistics related to Friends' arrival and departure from Respite, such as orienting Friends to the Respite space, arranging transportation, picking up needed supplies.
- Assist in the creation and implementation of social activities that can help develop a sense of community within Respite.
- Develop relationships with Friends that are respectful, trusting, empathetic and collaborative.
- Assist with providing follow-up support for Friends who transition from HSR to other settings or leave before they have fully healed.
- Partner with Mercy League to help ensure that the Haywood Street campus is a safe and welcoming place for all, regardless of where people are in their recovery journey.
- Support Friends with resolution to minor problems.
- Accompany Friends to recovery meetings on the Haywood St. campus.
- Maintain healthy self-care and work balance.
- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries.
- Inform Friends about community resources and how to access them.
- Be available to offer Friends support and help as needed, including responding to health concerns and providing access to medication
- Perform housekeeping/cleaning duties per daily/weekly schedule and as assigned/needed
- Assist with preparation, serving and cleanup from meal
- Perform other duties as assigned

Desired Skills and Qualifications:

- High School Diploma or GED or equivalent
- Certified as a Peer Support Specialist or 1 continuous year in recovery from mental health/substance abuse challenges and eligible for certification as a NC Certified Peer Support Specialist.
- Embrace the fact that there are multiple pathways to recovery.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Thorough understanding and acceptance of the Haywood Street mission and vision.
- Ability to drive a Haywood Street vehicle

Schedule:

26 hours a week:

Monday 2pm-4pm

Tuesday 8pm-Wednesday 8am

Saturday and Sunday 12pm-8pm

Compensation: \$20.10 an hour

Benefits include:

- paid time off annually equal to 4 work weeks, in addition to 9 scheduled holidays and your birthday. .
- Access to free/reduced cost counseling, massage, acupuncture and other wellness resources.
- Participation in 403B retirement plan with employer match on up to 3% of wages contributed.

This position is funded initially by a 2 year grant, with potential of becoming permanent.

Please submit/download a resume and a cover letter with your application. Applications will be reviewed immediately. Applicants are asked to submit a cover letter and resume no later than 8/18/23. For more information on Haywood Street Respite, and this position, please go to Haywoodstreet.org

All offers of employment are contingent on background check. People with a criminal record are encouraged to apply.

Employees are encouraged to be vaccinated for Covid-19.