



Job Posting

Two (2) Harm Reduction Workers – Opioid Overdose

Jane-Trethewey, Keele-Rogers and Lawrence Heights Sites

Permanent, Full-time (35 hours per week, 1 FTE)

Unison Health and Community Services is a non-profit, community-based organization that serves neighbourhoods in North West Toronto. Operating out of five locations, Unison offers core services that include primary health care, counselling, health promotion, Early Years programs, legal services, harm reduction programs, housing assistance, adult protective services, Pathways to Education and Diabetes Education Centre. Unison's mission is working together to deliver accessible and high quality health and community services that are integrated, respond to needs, build on strengths and inspire change.

Unison is committed to working from an inclusive, sex positive, harm reduction, anti-racist, anti-oppression and participatory framework.

At this time, Unison is seeking two Harm Reduction Workers – Opioid Overdose to work across Unison's sites to provide outreach, education and support to people who use illegal opioid drugs, or people who use prescription opioid drugs illegally. Reporting to the Harm Reduction Program Coordinator and the Manager, Urban Health Programs, the Harm Reduction Workers – Opioid Overdose will assist in the development and implementation of an overdose prevention strategy that meets the needs of the community, as well as the funder's and Unison's organizational objectives.

Organizational Responsibilities

1. Participate in team and organization-wide meetings and committees, initiatives and events.
2. Develop work goals in conjunction with supervisor, identifying action plans, learning objectives and professional development needs.
3. Participate in performance appraisal process including self-evaluation component.
4. Adhere to all policies and procedures of the organization as identified in the operations manual.
5. Orient, supervise and support students and/or volunteers as required.
6. Identify, report and debrief on client safety incidents, good catches, occupational health and safety incidents and near misses.
7. Other duties as required.

Job Specific Responsibilities

- Participate in the development and implementation of an opioid overdose prevention outreach strategy with the Harm Reduction team, and other interdisciplinary Unison staff.
- Distribute harm reduction supplies to individuals and satellite distribution sites.
- Assess client knowledge and provide education regarding safer use best practices.
- Provide education regarding overdose prevention and response.
- Provide on the spot training to clients regarding appropriate use and administration of naloxone and provide take home naloxone to clients.
- Collaborate with other Harm Reduction team members to facilitate groups or workshops as the need arises.
- Recruit, train and support peers.

- Build rapport with clients to learn their self-identified challenges and make referrals to a variety of health, social, community, financial and support services.
- Provide advocacy and work collaboratively with the client, health care professionals, and community to identify and resolve health issues and facilitate integration of care.
- Contribute to the expansion of Unison's existing harm reduction program within its catchment area.
- Provide a wide variety of harm reduction services and education as required: safer non-opiate drug use, safer sex, safer sex work, safer partying, etc.
- Maintain client information and data as required by funder.
- Other duties as required.

Organizational Qualifications

1. Demonstrated ability to effectively work independently and as a member of a multi-disciplinary team.
2. Ability to work within a community-based context, with a culturally diverse community.
3. Effective communication, interpersonal, organizational and administrative skills, including computer literacy skills specific to job requirements.
4. Knowledge of issues affecting communities facing barriers to access in an urban environment.
5. Three to five years' experience in a community-based setting.

Job – Specific Qualifications

- Familiarity with harm reduction philosophy and principles – lived experience an asset.
- Related college or university degree or equivalent experience.
- 3-5 years direct experience working with marginalized populations such as; injection drug users, non-injection drug users, sex workers, homeless or street-involved individuals, youth, new immigrants, LGBTTTQQ+ population, individuals with a history of incarceration and individuals experiencing mental illness.
- Strong knowledge of social justice issues and the determinants of health affecting marginalized communities.
- Demonstrated problem-solving skills and initiative.
- Demonstrated supervisory experience is an asset.
- Ability to work some evening and/or weekend shifts.

Interested candidates are asked to submit a résumé with covering letter by **5:00 p.m., Monday, November 13, 2017** to:

Hiring Committee, Harm Reduction Worker – Opioid Overdose
 Unison Health and Community Services
hirings@unisonhcs.org

Please cite UN_2017_048 in the subject line of the email.

We welcome applications from people who are reflective of the diverse communities we serve, including those who might need accommodation.

Unison is committed to accommodating applicants with disabilities throughout the hiring process, in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

While we thank all applicants for their interest, only those selected for interview will be contacted.