

Internal/External posting

Position:	Peer Housing Support Worker
Reports to:	Manager of Supported Housing
Location:	101 Yorkshire Avenue Extension, Dartmouth with some outreach/off-site activities
Pay Scale:	\$21.80/hr + benefits
Work Term:	1.0 FTE (37.5 hours/week), permanent
Deadline:	July 8, 2022
<i>This is a unionized position under NEGEU Local 102</i>	

About NECHC

The North End Community Health Centre (NECHC) was established in 1971 in response to an absence of primary health care and other health services in Halifax's North End. Located on Gottingen Street, we are in the heart of a unique and culturally diverse community. Today, governed by the North End Community Health Association, the NECHC is viewed by area residents as a "beacon of hope" in the community. Much more than a Primary Care Clinic, the NECHC has expanded in response to unmet needs of community members and is highly-valued by its patients and clients and their families. NECHC provides services to those living on the margins of society, through MOSH, Housing First and a wide range of community outreach initiatives.

Vision

Strong community - healthy people.

Mission

We support health and well-being in our community through quality primary health care, education and advocacy in an environment in which people are treated with respect and dignity and there is equitable access to services and programs.

Values

Respect. Community. Compassion. Excellence. Innovation

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commitment

The North End Community Health Centre is committed to being an inclusive organization. We are working to ensure our organization represents the diverse people and communities we serve.

In order to self-declare inclusion in equity groups please complete the self-declaration form available on our website at nechc.com/jobs and submit it with your resume and cover letter. Your declaration of membership in any of these equity groups will remain confidential.

Job Purpose

The Peer Housing Support Worker supports the work of the Overlook team and reports to the Manager of Supported Housing at NECHC.

This position will provide training and ongoing collaborative program development opportunities while working as a valued member of a team in a supportive and dynamic environment. The Peer Housing Support Worker is connected through active engagement and ongoing support service activities with tenants at the Overlook in a mutually supportive and relational structure. The Peer Housing Support Worker is responsible for supporting peers who reside at the Overlook in their unique and individual experiences, transitions, and recovery journeys from experiences with homelessness to self-defining, establishing, and maintaining safer and stable housing.

The Peer Housing Support Worker strives to connect with peers through shared experience in ways that strengthen hope, reduce power imbalances, and provide social and emotional support for those who may be experiencing challenges in their unique journeys.

Position Responsibilities

- Provide one-to-one support and/or group support with tenants of the Overlook that is consistent with the program framework and peer-centered philosophy and approach.
- Provide a level of support for peers in their journeys that allows for self-determination, personal empowerment, growth, safety, and wellness.
- Maintain and develop a strong level of understanding and initiative in support and connection with peers for local resources, supports, and services that they may benefit from, and wish to seek out.
- Demonstrate a strong level of comfort and adaptability in providing support for individuals from diverse backgrounds, life experiences, and for those who may be at varied stages of their healing journeys around experiences with homelessness and/or substance use.
- Demonstrate and uphold strong knowledge of personal self-care practices, and personal and professional boundary-setting.
- Be responsible for knowing when to seek assistance within the team and with the manager and/or other members of staff when specific challenges arise in relation to working with peers, in the workplace, or out in the community.
- Participate in the overdose prevention, recognition, response and post-intervention practices within the Overlook community.
- Share on-call duties for overnights.
- Attend and prepare for bi-weekly training workshop meetings and other scheduled team meetings as required.
- Share learning, challenges, successes, community connections, and resources with the team and members of staff.
- Provide feedback and share knowledge toward best practices for service delivery and ongoing program development.

Education, Training & Experience

This position is open to Persons with Living/Lived Experiences with homelessness.

Skills & Qualifications:

Must possess the following:

- Compassionate, non-judgmental approach to supporting peers whose needs and goals may be different than your own, creative thinking, ability to navigate a crisis situation, de-escalate, and/or pull in more support.
- Knowledge of harm reduction and commitment to upholding harm reduction approaches to substance use and housing support.
- Ability to understand the importance and value of the peer-centered approach to support service delivery.
- Ability to reflect on and utilize lived experiences, skills, and strategies with homelessness as a core foundation of work with peers.
- Understanding the benefit of mutually shared experience as a supportive technique.



- Ability to recognize, identify, and apply healthy boundary setting as a method for maintaining personal wellness and ensuring the maintenance of a supportive work environment with peers and with the team.
- Capacity to contribute to and help uphold a supportive environment in interactions with peers, fellow team members, and other members of staff.

This position works 12 hours shifts with a flexible schedule.

How to Apply

Those interested in applying for this position should send their resume to employment@nehc.com by **July 8, 2022**. We thank all applicants for their interest, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

All employees are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID 19. For clarity, "fully vaccinated" means 14 days since having the number of doses or combination of doses of a vaccine approved by Health Canada or local public health agencies in the jurisdiction in which they will be employed. All new hires will be required to provide proof of full vaccination as a condition of employment.