



December 16, 2024

JOB POSTING

Peer Supporter, Richmond Hill Drop-In

2 Full-Time Contracts

Introduction to Krasman Centre

Incorporated in 1998, Krasman Centre is a community based mental health and addiction Consumer/Survivor Initiative serving York Region, north Toronto and South Simcoe County. All our staff and volunteers are individuals with direct lived experience, of mental health and/or substance use challenges and/or as family members/caregivers, in keeping with our Consumer/Survivor Initiative model. We offer a wide range of peer-support-based programs and services including:

- Peer Support Drop-In Centres
- 24/7 Warm Line and Peer Crisis Support Service
- Mobile Peer Support Outreach
- Family Support Program
- Peer Support training programs
- Peer Navigators embedded in hospital Emergency Departments
- Peer Supporters in Withdrawal Management Programs and RAAM clinics

More information about Krasman Centre can be found here:

www.krasmancentre.com

Peer Support is a respectful relationship between the Peer Supporter and the individual that promotes empowerment, trust and mutuality and supports individuals to make changes and decisions to address their current level of distress and enhance their recovery and wellness. Peer Support uses recovery-oriented principles with individuals to help combat stigma, raise self-esteem, improve self-concept and instill hope.

Peer Supporters have direct lived experience with mental health / substance use challenges, have gone through a process of recovery and have obtained peer support related training to assist others with similar lived experiences. For this Peer Support position, lived experience with substance use, mental health challenges, and/or being unhoused is a strong asset. The Peer Supporter defines, models and mentors recovery values, attitudes, beliefs, and personal actions in order to encourage wellness and resilience. Activities of peer support promote self-directed recovery by emphasizing the person, rather than the identified mental health, substance use/addiction challenge.

Position Title: Peer Supporter, Richmond Hill Drop-In

Position Description:

Drawing from lived experience of mental health, substance use and/or housing challenges, the Peer Supporter will provide anti-oppressive, anti-racist, person-centered, and trauma-informed individual and group supports to Drop-In Centre visitors.

The goal of the Peer Supporter is to contribute to a low-barrier service and warm environment where peers experiencing a variety of challenges can come together to build community, feel empowered, seek support in navigating external resources, grow in their recovery and wellness, and rest.

Krasman Centre is seeking a reliable, emotionally intelligent, compassionate individual with personal lived experience with challenges relating to mental health, substance use and/or being unhoused. The successful candidate will have strong communication skills, is comfortable working in a fast-paced environment and is able to effectively work in a team.

Duties:

Peer Support and Engagement:

- Build rapport and provide peer support to all Centre visitors according to the Peer Support Code of Ethics and Peer Support Values in Action
- Orient Centre visitors to the role of a Peer Supporter and its limitations – we do not provide therapy
- Work in partnership with colleagues and Centre visitors to create and sustain a warm and supportive environment
- Facilitate appropriate community referrals
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge on community and partner resources

- Offer access to information on advocacy, self-help, recovery/wellness, crisis planning/prevention tools, and empowerment
- Promote self-advocacy and empower Centre visitors to advocate for themselves and for opportunities to have their voices heard
- Engage in limited assessment, using the least harmful and non-stigmatizing language, and carryout in collaboration with the participant
- Practice and promote harm reduction principles
- Distribution of survival, self-care and harm reduction supplies

Programming

- Facilitate and/or co-facilitate life skills, peer support and wellness education groups, workshops, and activities developed in partnership and consultation with colleagues and peers, or using existing self-help group or wellness education materials
- Coordinate with the Drop-In Centre team and Team Lead to schedule programming
- Assist Team Lead in coordinating with and assisting guest speakers, guest workshops and visiting professionals from other agencies
- Coordinate with Drop-In Centre team and Team Lead in planning and facilitating holiday and special events

Other

- Contribute to the collection of daily, monthly, and annual statistics and reporting, as required
- Participate in public education, outreach functions and activities, and public relations / marketing opportunities as designated by respective program leads
- Attend internal staff meetings, and internal or external committee meetings, as assigned
- Light cleaning and dishwashing throughout the day
- Light food preparation, as needed
- Shopping for Centre supplies, as required

Qualifications

- Personal lived experience with being unhoused or with mental health and/or substance use challenges
- Graduate or current participant in peer support training or equivalent experiences
- Strong knowledge and grounding in Harm Reduction principles and practices
- Strong knowledge and practice of Anti-Racism and Anti-oppression principles and commitment to advancing equity, diversity and inclusion
- Awareness of issues faced by equity-deserving communities

- Ability to apply Recovery principles, strengths approach and empowerment-oriented philosophies and practices in work with participants
- Strong knowledge understanding and practice of trauma informed approaches to mental health, substance use and housing issues
- Possess excellent organizational, communication and interpersonal skills enabling you to work within a collaborative and diverse inter-professional team
- Ability to communicate and work comfortably with diverse communities
- Knowledge of systemic issues such as poverty, unemployment, stigma, medications, and the isolation felt by individuals with substance use/mental health issues and their families
- Extensive knowledge of local supports and services in GTA, including formal and informal resources
- Graduate or current participant in Peer Support training or equivalent experience
- Strong knowledge and grounding in harm reduction principles and practices
- Effective leadership, decision-making, organizational and problem-solving skills are required
- The ability to be flexible, self-directed, self-reflective and supportive
- An ability to relate to participants from a peer perspective, as well as communicate to a health care team with an understanding of the recovery model
- Provide supports reflective of the needs of the individual and when appropriate their families
- Demonstrate self-awareness and purposeful self-disclosure
- Demonstrate awareness of diversity issues and the personal impact of barriers, stigma and discrimination faced by people with addiction/mental health challenges
- Ability to use computers and software such as Microsoft Windows, Office and Teams
- Ability to speak a second language is a strong asset
- Current certificate in or ability to complete First Aid, CPR, and Naloxone administration
- Recent crisis intervention training an asset

Schedule & Working Conditions

- Location: 10121 Yonge St. Richmond Hill, ON L4C 1T7
 - Drop-In & office spaces are not wheelchair accessible
- Dynamic, self-directed environment
- This position is entirely in-person
- All employees are responsible for carrying out work in a way that does not adversely affect their own health and safety and that of others

- All employees are expected to learn, understand and adhere to health and safety policies and procedures.
- All necessary equipment and software for the position will be provided by Krasman Centre
- Contract length is from date of hire until March 31, 2025, with possibility of extension.
- Full-time is 37.5 hours per week. Part-time hours will be dependent on applicants' availability

HOW TO APPLY

Email a completed application to both Anand Kansara & Kalisha Goodberry:

Kalisha Goodberry: k.goodberry@krasmancentre.com

Please type "2024 RH Application" in the subject line of the email.

Deadline: Position posted until filled

Krasman Centre is a progressive work environment committed to employment equity, and promotion of diversity in the workplace. Those who would contribute to the further diversification of the organization are encouraged to apply and include, but are not limited to, members of Black, Indigenous, racialized, immigrant, 2-SLGBTQ+ communities, and people with disAbilities.

If you require assistance with the application process or wish to receive this posting in an alternate format, please contact us:

Kalisha Goodberry – 647-642-7817

Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection and employment process as per the Ontario Human Rights Code.