



OPEN POSITION: Community Health Outreach Worker

1. BASIC INFORMATION

Position Title: Community Health Outreach Worker

The Community Health Outreach Work (CHOW) Project is dedicated to serving individuals, families and communities adversely affected by drug use, especially people who inject drugs, through a participant-centered harm reduction approach. CHOW works to reduce drug-related harms such as but not limited to HIV, hepatitis B/C and overdose. The Life Foundation is a comprehensive AIDS organization, offering HIV prevention activities and services for HIV positive people in Hawaii and the Pacific region. The Life Foundation is the oldest and largest AIDS program in the state.

SUMMARY OF POSITION: Permanent, full-time (1 FTE) position with The CHOW Project & Life Foundation located in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Salary is commensurate with experience. The outreach worker is responsible for conducting outreach, overdose prevention, health education, HIV and hepatitis C counseling, testing and referral, and distributing and exchanging safer sex and drug use supplies with CHOW participants.

SCOPE OF POSITION: **Reports to:** Outreach & Overdose Prevention Program Manager

2. OVERALL JOB DESCRIPTION

The Outreach Worker will provide a comprehensive system of services directly and through referral, targeting substance users, their partners/family, and community members at high risk. The Outreach Worker is expected to perform the highest quality and appropriate, participant-centered HIV, viral hepatitis, and overdose prevention interventions and services. The Outreach Worker is expected to maintain a spirit of teamwork, and courtesy in all contacts and encounters. As needed, the Outreach Worker will assist with other tasks as assigned to meet the needs of the organization. Outreach Workers must be open, honest, punctual, detail-oriented and organized. Being able to work autonomously is a must.

HEALTH EDUCATION, TESTING AND REFERRALS

- Provide HIV/AIDS, STD, and viral hepatitis prevention education
- Provide overdose prevention education and naloxone distribution to program participants
- Discuss issues about general health of intravenous and non-intravenous drug users, their partners, and families.
- Share information about community resources available, and successfully provide referrals (substance use treatment, medical care, social services)
- Provide HIV/Hepatitis C counseling and testing
- Share practical information of proper disposal of used syringes and paraphernalia
- Share basic information concerning legal issues and challenges related to drug use
- Share practical demonstrations of safe use of female condoms, male condoms, dental dams, and lubrication.

OUTREACH AND SAFER SEX AND DRUG USE SUPPLIES

- Provide syringe exchange services at mobile van sites
- Provide street-based exchange during outreach

- Provide individual Syringe Exchange Appointments
- Engage community members on empowerment processes aimed mainly to reduce risks as active drug users and active sexual partners.
- Provide syringe pick-up within the surrounding area of both outreach sites.
- Perform vanload and unload, restock supplies as needed

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Maintain van cleanliness and maintains service schedules
- Fill out daily log forms
- Fill out monthly field notes
- Participate in the development of alternative prevention strategies, after approval of direct supervisor

3. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- **Education:** High school degree required, Bachelor's degree preferred.
- **Experience:** Experience in street outreach and harm reduction preferred.
- **Knowledge and Skills:** Strong interpersonal, written, oral communication skills. Good crisis intervention and de-escalation skills. Basic computer skills required, including Microsoft Office. Knowledge of addiction and injection drug use a plus.
- **Abilities:** Non-judgmental attitude and the ability to respect the knowledge, actions and feelings of others is required. Must have the ability to deal with difficult interactions with care, compassion and assertiveness, and the confidence and ability to work alone. Ability to relate effectively to people of a wide variety of backgrounds.
- **Physical and/or Medical Demands:** Need to be able to lift 30 pounds and pull 40 lb cart on daily basis.

4. HOW TO APPLY

- Please carefully read and fully comply with the following.
- Applicants should send a resume, a letter explaining their interest in and qualifications for this position, and the names and contact information for three relevant references. Applications may be submitted via postal mail, fax or email attachment as follows:

Life Foundation & The CHOW Project
 677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 226 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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