



Title: **Peer Support Specialist VA**
FLSA Status: **Part-time, Non-exempt**

Reports to: **Program Manager**
EEO Code: **5**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Overview:

St Vincent de Paul is one of the longest serving social charities in Louisville. We are located in the up-and-coming Shelby Park neighborhood. Through our homeless shelters, supportive housing programs, professional case management services and retail thrift stores, we provide compassion, hope and direction for people struggling to overcome barriers to self-sufficiency.

Position Summary:

A **Peer Support Specialist** is a person with "lived experience" who has been trained to support those who may be struggling with mental health issues, psychological trauma, substance use and/or homelessness. Their personal experience of these or similar challenges provides them with an expertise that professional training cannot.

The **Peer Support Specialist VA** serves by assisting their *Veteran* peers, articulating their goals for recovery, learning and practicing new skills, helping them monitor their progress, supporting them in their treatment, modeling effective coping techniques and self-help strategies based on the specialist's own recovery experience, supporting them in advocating for themselves to obtain effective services, and developing and implementing recovery plans.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assists Veteran Clients in the development of a self-sufficiency plan
- Assist with housing searches, specifically helping with transportation to apartment viewings and landlord outreach, and assisting them to complete applications.
- Provides education with a focus on recovery, illness management and peer support
- Provides case management, resourcing, and service coordination as an extension of case management services
- Assists in facilitating small peer support groups, events and programs
- Provides support and encouragement to help clients strengthen life skills and recovery
- Assists in training peer mentors on providing peer support services
- Accompanies street outreach team to provide peer support for clients served at street outreach sites
- Conducts home visits to clients receiving permanent supportive housing to provide life skills training and peer support, and to complete assessments of client needs
- Assists in the process of determining appropriate matches between peer mentors and recipients of mentoring services
- Other duties as assigned

Specific Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to lead, inspire and motivate others
- Excellent communications skills, written and verbal, especially listening skills
- Computer and Microsoft literate
- Minimum 2 years sober or 1 year out of SVDP programs, if former client
- Commitment to the mission and goals of St Vincent de Paul

Education, Qualifications, Certifications, Trainings, Licenses:

- High School Graduate or above; Associates degree preferred
- *Peer Support Certification* is required
- *Veteran* is preferred



St. Vincent de Paul – Job Posting

- A combination of education, training and experience that results in demonstrated proficiency to perform the work may be substituted
- Relevant work experience with individuals, families and children in a social work environment or related field including individual/family counseling, community organization, education or youth advocacy
- Successfully pass required pre-employment background and drug screening
- Valid Driver's License

Reporting to this position: None

Benefits/Additional Information:

In addition to a sense of purpose and pride that comes from serving others, eligible employees enjoy paid holidays, paid leave, paid Life/Short/Long Term Insurance as well as access to SVDP's Section 125 Health and 401(k) Retirement Plans.

St Vincent de Paul will conduct a thorough background investigation as part of its application process. Investigations are not limited to, but will include review and verification of the following: previous employment, character references, motor vehicle reports, personality and aptitude testing, drug screening and a comprehensive criminal background check.

To apply, interested applicants may apply online via www.louisvilleworks.com - or - in person - or - by mailing or emailing a cover letter and resume to:

St Vincent de Paul
HR Director
1015-C South Preston St
Louisville, KY 40203
Email: dflanigan@svdplou.org

Cover letters are appreciated.

St Vincent de Paul is an Equal Opportunity Employer and absolutely committed to diversity. (M/F/D/V)