

SAMPLE Peer Advocate Job Description

The role of the Peer Advocate is to provide a bridge between providers and clients (HIV-positive women) that facilitates the medical and psychosocial care of the client.

The Peer Advocate works in a team setting as one component of the clients coordinated care. However, the Peer Advocate is an advocate for the client, and maintains a relationship with the client that fosters trust and understanding distinct from a provider role.

The peer Advocate is expected to serve as a role model who provides reliable information, appropriate referrals, and emotional support to women who are infected with HIV or AIDS. Peer Advocates also help clients access services (medical, emotional, economic, and legal) and sometimes accompany clients to appointments or arrange for transportation as needed.

Required Qualifications:

1. First hand understanding of issues related to living with HIV or AIDS.
2. Familiarity with AIDS services in the city of _____.
3. Ability to work as part of a team, with other Peer Advocates at our Agency and with health care providers in clinical settings.
4. Honesty and genuine compassion for individuals living with HIV/AIDS.
5. Ability and willingness to accept direction from supervisor.
6. Good oral and written English communication skills.
7. Good telephone skills
8. Comfort with the diversity (ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, etc.) of our multicultural community.
9. Ability to maintain required work schedule, be on time, keep work area neat and be accountable for how time is used.
10. Ability to use good judgment regarding confidentiality issues.
11. At least one year clean and sober if addiction has been an issue.
12. Ability to advocate for clients by bringing concerns about services to providers' attention.
13. Ability to help clients identify risk reduction strategies (safer sex, drug treatment, needle exchange, etc.)
14. Strong knowledge of HIV disease, treatments, and substance abuse issues.

Preferred Qualifications:

1. Basic computer proficiency
2. Prior peer experience or peer education training.
3. Prior experience with record keeping.
4. Training certificate in HIV 101, Peer Education/Advocacy, HIV treatment is preferred but not required.