

Welcoming, Empowering,
Safe Habitation Initiative with
Neighborhood Engagement



WeShine
WeShinePDX.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JAN MCMANUS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 503-970-2984,

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Who We Are:

WeShine is a tax-exempt non profit formed in 2021 by activists from 3 Eastside neighborhoods. WeShine's goal is to develop and operate welcoming, safe, and empowering transitional micro-villages in Portland neighborhoods for some of the most vulnerable individuals among our houseless population. We seek to establish partnerships with property owners and neighborhoods, faith-based communities, local nonprofits and businesses to create supportive temporary micro-villages that can be replicated throughout the metro area.

WeShine honors cultural and spiritual diversity in the communities we serve and Voice and Choice through trauma-informed practices. We are committed to Social Justice and are constantly assessing our organizational values and the extent to which we are modeling or falling short .

We listen to feedback from our stakeholders and others who have interacted with our organization and take time to understand and reflect on those interactions. These values are integrated throughout our organization from the Board to each WeShine employee.

What We Need: Peer Support Specialist

The WeShine Peer Support Specialist (PSS) offers peer support to individuals as someone who has similar life experiences and acts as a positive role model and advocate for a person in recovery. It is required that the PSS understand the effects of trauma on health, coping, and other aspects of the lives of those we serve. The PSS is a member of the village staff and volunteer team that works to collaboratively support an individual's self-defined and self-directed goals.

The PSS will have 15-20 designated on-duty hours each week and will also be required to carry a smart phone and be continually accessible to provide on-call coverage at least one day a week, including some weekends, or as often as needed.

What you would do as a Peer Support Specialist:

1. Become certified within 6 months of hire plus have at least 2 years of documented clean time prior to hire.
2. Provide a listening, supportive presence for guests of a WeShine micro-village and, in coordination with other team members, provide follow-up support to guests who transition to permanent housing.
3. Provide individual and/or group support in living skills, creation of healthful lifestyles, and support in areas such as self-care, holistic wellness, hygiene, community resources, and other life skills as requested by guests or the Village Council.
4. Participate in regular check-ins with each guest, attend guest care coordination conferences.



5. Comply with and implement the regulations, policies, and procedures which pertain to peer delivered service goals and protocol.
6. Assist in crisis situations as appropriate, including following emergency protocols/procedures and coordinating with the village team with interventions which support a trauma informed environment for guests, volunteers, and staff.
7. Document all contacts with guests and other service providers; administer outcome measurement tools with guests and other stake-holders and participate in data collection.
8. Reflect positive peer values that include non-hierarchy and mutuality.
9. Act as an advocate for individuals being served, both within the organization and also with other entities.
10. Remain awake during all regular duty hours.
11. When on call for 24 hr. emergency coverage, respond to any WeShine related texts or calls within one hour.
12. Participate in all scheduled staff meetings, supervision sessions, and other departmental and agency meetings.
13. Promote guest involvement and responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, through participation in the Village Council and planning with the Village team other interaction and activities to foster a community environment.
14. Support and engage in activities to further the mission, vision and strategic plan of the organization.
15. Adhere to mandatory abuse reporting laws and HIPAA requirements.
16. Perform other duties as assigned.

WeShine has implemented a mandatory vaccination policy that requires all employees, interns, and volunteers to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 as a condition of being a guest, employee or volunteer.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- High school diploma or equivalent required.
- Identifies as having lived experience of being unhoused and/or being in recovery with addiction and/or mental health challenges.
- Lived experience of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and recovery is valued.
- Experience working with adults with addiction challenges and mental health recovery is desirable and highly valued.

- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively within a team.
- Ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures.
- Demonstrated ability to utilize electronic communication as well as google applications, MS Office applications, and other software applications is required. .
- Demonstrated ability to enter and retrieve data



- Demonstrated ability to prepare simple reports and progress notes

Background Check Traditional Health Worker (THW) Peer Support Specialist certification application and/or MHACBO Certified Recovery Mentor certification process includes a background check. WeShine will review the certification background check. WeShine may request an updated background check if the Certification-related check is more than 2 years old. A criminal history does not necessarily exclude an individual from hire.

Your Personal qualities:

- Possess an absolute belief in every person’s ability to learn, grow and recover
- Value a person’s right to make their own decisions
- Value people as the “experts” in their own lives
- Possess insight pertaining to personal biases and worldview and how they may interfere with effectively working with individuals representing a variety of cultural, ethnic, language and life experiences.

Must demonstrate a reasonable plan and ability to use public or shared transportation resources to perform all job functions. If using personal or shared vehicles must possess a valid Oregon Driver’s license and insurance coverage as required by law.

WeShine is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Employment opportunities at WeShine are based upon one's qualifications and capabilities to perform the essential functions of a particular job. All employment opportunities are provided without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, national origin, age, Veteran status, disability, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law.