



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

# Senior Peer Support Worker

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<b>REPORTS TO:</b>	Project Director (Clinical Research Associate / Behavioral Health Specialist)
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Albuquerque, NM (Onsite/Hybrid)
<b>FLSA STATUS:</b>	Exempt (Full-Time)
<b>SALARY RANGE:</b>	\$40,000 – \$60,000 Annually DOE
<b>BENEFITS:</b>	Annual, Sick Leave and Holiday Pay; Health, Dental, Life, Vision Insurance, and 403(b) Retirement Plan.

## DESCRIPTION

The peer support worker serves as a recovery agent by providing and advocating for effective recovery-based services that will aid the client in daily living. They assist behavioral health professionals as a member of a multidisciplinary team participating in service, training, consultation, and other professional activities of rehabilitation treatment programs. The performance of duties will be in compliance with guidelines established by the funding agency and the term of the position is typically tied to the grant funding.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Advocate for clients receiving mental health/substance use services, psychiatric care, or equivalent work through in-person communication supporting mental health recovery.
- Provide mentoring and support services to those in mental health and/or addiction recovery.
- Educate staff about the recovery process and how stigma can undermine the recovery process.
- Ensure clients are making a successful transition to community integration and continuing their progress toward recovery goals.
- Model effective coping techniques and self-help strategies based on the specialist's own recovery experience and support clients in advocating for themselves to obtain effective services.
- Use personal experience with mental health or co-occurring services to relate to others who are now using those services.
- Help clients monitor their progress and assist them in their treatment.
- Assist clients in articulating their goals for recovery, as well as, encouraging learning and practicing new skills.
- Provide substance use prevention activities in the communities as needed.
- Sr. Peer Support Worker (PSW) will be a team leader by recruiting and training other PSWs in the communities as well as provide mentorship, lead a PSW community of practice, and assist with training development and facilitation.
- Develop and maintain positive relationships with all internal and external program partners.
- Perform any additional tasks as assigned.

## **KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIRED**

- Capacity to effectively present information and respond (in written and/or oral format) to questions from team members, clients, and other community members as appropriate.
- Ability to teach coping/life skills while maintaining appropriate professional boundaries with clients.
- Knowledge of mental health diagnosis, and community and state resources.
- Understanding of the elements of community outreach/engagement and health care systems within tribal communities to enhance resource development.
- Knowledge of prevention specialist and substance use counselor's certification and training requirements.
- Trained in motivational interviewing and how to provide trauma informed care.
- Mature judgment and professionalism in ensuring confidentiality of client information.
- Proficiency in the use of the internet, document management, and software programs such as MS Word, PowerPoint, and Excel.
- Strong sense of teamwork and dedication to community.
- Knowledge and/or experience working with American Indian communities and cultures.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Bachelor's degree preferred.
- Obtain training and certification as a Certified Peer Support Worker in the State of New Mexico.
- Must be able to pass a TB and drug screen.
- Able to meet requirements COVID-19 testing and vaccination policy.
- Background investigation is required as a condition of employment.
- Complete HIPPA certification within 30 days.
- Maintain a valid State driver's license and have ability to drive company-leased vehicle for company and project related business.

## **WORK CONDITIONS/PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Work is performed both in tribal communities and in a typical office environment. This position will be eligible for a hybrid schedule.
- Occasionally involves light work; can require exerting up to 20 pounds of force and/or up to 10 pounds of force to move objects.
- Moderate travel is required.

## **PREFERENCE:**

Qualified American Indian applicants will be given preference in accordance with the exemption provided under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

## **TO APPLY FOR THIS POSITION:**

Send CV/Resume, list of three professional references, and cover letter to [jstus@aaihb.org](mailto:jstus@aaihb.org) or regular mail to: Joy Stus, Human Resource Manager, Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Inc., 7001 Prospect Place, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110. No phone calls.