



JOB POSTING

JOB TITLE:	PATH Peer Specialist		
PROJECT:	Idaho PATH Project		
LOCATION:	Twin Falls, Idaho		
STATUS/HOURS:	Full Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part Time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>19</u> Hours per week	47.5% FTE
FLSA STATUS:	Exempt <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Exempt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
PAY:	\$10 per hour		
REPORTS TO:	Justine Murphy, PATH Peer Specialist Program Coordinator		
POSTING DATES:	July 19 to February 13, 2012		

SUMMARY:

PATH Peer Specialists will be employed by Mountain States Group and placed with Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Regional Mental Health Programs to assist adults who are homeless and have a serious mental illness. All Peer Specialist services will promote hope, wellness, and recovery outcomes for clients, and will be shaped by client self-direction and responsibility.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conduct outreach to engage adults and identified transitional youth who are homeless and most likely have a mental illness.
- Engage these persons in connecting or reconnecting to Idaho's mental health, housing, primary health care entities (i.e. District Health facilities) and substance abuse treatment service systems as needed.
- Assist clients in applying for income and health care coverage benefits such as SSI and SSDI.
- Connect individuals to additional mainstream services and resources as needed, including food, clothing, health care, employment and training, and other social services.
- Provide clients with transportation to necessary medical, housing, and social services appointments.
- Collaborate with other community entities as needed to effectively refer clients and address service gaps; participate on local housing coalitions.
- Offer short-term support (3-6 months) to clients as they transition to new temporary or permanent housing situations and work on mental health recovery goals.
- Provide hope and encouragement by serving as a role model in recovery.
- Teach skills and strategies to problem solve, identify and combat negative self-talk, overcome fears, cope, self-manage illness, and prevent relapse.
- Participate in Peer Specialist conference calls and training with Mountain States Group as required.
- Submit monthly service reports to Mountain States Group.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Possess a solid understanding of the recovery process;
- Have a history of mental illness and be well-grounded in one's own recovery, with at least a year since diagnosis;
- Be willing to share one's recovery experience with clients and staff;
- Have completed, or be willing to complete within the first six months of employment, one's own Wellness Recovery Action Plan;
- Have the ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing;
- Have the ability to teach coping/life skills, while maintaining appropriate professional boundaries with clients;

- Have the ability and willingness to function as a member of multiple work teams (i.e, MSG's PATH teams, local Dept. of Health and Welfare team)
- Possess skills in basic computer functions of email, document management, and internet;
- Be able to pass a fingerprint criminal history background check.;
- Possess a valid driver's license and be able to provide proof of State required minimum liability insurance coverage;
- Have access to a reliable vehicle for independent travel preferred

Peer Specialist Ethics:

- Ensure all client records are maintained in a confidential manner.
- Share client information only with those who have been given client consent.
- Work with clients of all ages, races, religions, and socio-economic backgrounds in a respectful and non-judgmental manner.
- Create and maintain a recovery oriented environment by using person-first language, respectful documentation, and person-centered planning.
- Respond to client and staff telephone calls and email messages in a timely and professional manner.
- Maintain professional boundaries with clients, and specifically do not engage in inappropriate relationships or exchange money or gifts with clients.

EDUCATION:

- High school diploma or GED required

CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS:

- Be certified as a Peer Specialist by a nationally recognized Peer Specialist training program required
 - *Peer Specialist training will be held in Twin Falls March 12 thru 16, 2012 and in Lewiston April 2 thru 6, 2012. Contact Idaho Peer Specialist Program (Kim or Justine) at 208-336-5533 to apply to attend training.*

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Works in general office environment works outdoors requiring travel to locations where the local homeless populations gather.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Must be able to tolerate heat and cold, to drive or travel to various office locations, local missions and other areas where homeless citizens gather in varied weather conditions. Sitting, standing, walking, driving, repeated hand and wrist motions (for computer use) are required.

TO APPLY:

Complete the Mountain States Group Employment Application (attached) or available at www.mtnstatesgroup.org and send with your resume to info@mtstatesgroup.org. Or fax to 208.331.0267 or mail or deliver to 1607 W Jefferson St., Boise, ID 83702.

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential duties of this job. Mountain States Group is an Affirmative Action / Equal Employment Opportunity Employer