**Prevention Point Philadelphia**

**Job Description**

**Department:** Prevention Services

**Job Title:** Prevention Counselor and Linkage Specialist

**Reports To**: Prevention Services Program Coordinator

**Position Summary:**

Prevention Point Philadelphia (PPP) is a multi-service public health organization dedicated to protecting the health and welfare of drug users and sex workers. Using a harm reduction approach, PPP offers culturally sensitive, non-judgmental services to address the health and social service needs of drug and hormone users and sex workers in Philadelphia.

The Prevention Counselor and Linkage Specialist will focus on a new initiative to increase HIV testing, connection to prevention services, PREP, and internal services. The Prevention Counselor and Linkage Specialist will actively recruit syringe exchange clients for the program, and provide HIV and Hepatitis C Testing. Responsibilities include promotion and administration of HIV and HCV testing and counseling among social networks, connecting HIV positive clients to HIV primary care, off-site outreach to participating peer groups, and referrals to HIV prevention services, STD testing, hepatitis C confirmatory testing and treatment, and PREP.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Conducts outreach and program recruitment to active injection drug users and sex workers at six mobile syringe exchange outreach sites and off- site venues in Philadelphia promoting HIV testing among peer groups and registration with the SEP.
2. Conducts confidential and anonymous HIV and HCV testing and counseling.
3. Refers HIV and HCV positive clients to medical services and potentially accompanies them to their initial appointments.
4. Provides individual and group-centered education on HIV/AIDS, risk behaviors, Hepatitis C, PREP, STDs, substance use and harm reduction.
5. Provides harm reduction and overdose prevention counseling services. Engages clients in meaningful and frank discussions about drug use, overdose, and HIV and Hepatitis transmission, and PREP. Encourages them to adopt appropriate safer sex and injecting behaviors.
6. Connects clients to appropriate PPP services, including HIV counseling and testing, primary medical care, family planning counseling, harm reduction counseling, and referrals to health care and social services.
7. Conducts street outreach and venue-based outreach to potential clients and to community organizations serving high risk populations.
8. Establishes and maintains relationships with service providers, agencies and community groups to ensure appropriate referrals and outreach.
9. Develops and writes informational material for educational purposes; conducts workshops and educational sessions for clients, volunteers and other interested parties.
10. Actively participates in team meetings and bi-weekly staff meetings.
11. Adheres to Prevention Point’s harm reduction approach (meeting people where they are & withholding judgment about choices they make, etc.).
12. Maintains the standards of accurate and complete recording and reporting of program activities. Completes routine data entry. Records and submits required reports and documents in a timely manner.
13. Completes routine administrative duties including filing, shredding, collating, stocking, inventory, and other operational needs.
14. Upholds policies and procedures for testing and linkage in accordance with standards set by PPP and AACO.
15. Performs other duties as assigned by supervisor.

**Skills Required:**

* Excellent oral communication skills – both one-on-one and for group presentations
* Skill in communicating effectively with a variety of people of various socio-economic and educational backgrounds.
* Ability to use a harm reduction approach with drug users and sex workers.
* Dynamic, creative, flexible, able to learn and adapt in a changing environment.
* Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
* Excellent written communication and organizational skills.
* Basic computer skills (Windows/Microsoft Office).

**Minimum Qualifications:**

* At least two years work experience with communities impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance use, poverty, and/or homelessness.
* Direct service experience with one-on-one counseling and group facilitation experience preferred.
* Knowledge of Philadelphia social service and medical systems.
* Bilingual (Spanish) preferred.
* Knowledge of HIV prevention; AACO HIV Counselor certification preferred.
* Demonstrated commitment to advocacy and social justice, particularly as related to harm reduction, HIV/AIDS, poverty, and homelessness.

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**Other Requirements:**

* This position includes the normal physical demands of a community-based health program, including lifting/moving up to 25 lbs, bending, and carrying. Other physical requirements include sitting for long periods, standing for up to 30 minutes and walking short distances.
* This position requires travel to outreach locations within Philadelphia and the ability to work out-of-doors for up to 2.5 hours.

**Salary Range:** Salary will be based on skills and experience.

**Send your resume and cover letter to: andres@ppponline.org**