

Charlestown Substance Abuse Coalition
MDPH MassCall 2 Initiative: Opiate Overdose Reduction and Prevention
Massachusetts General Hospital

Job Title: **Community Health Worker / Navigator - full time, 40 hours.**

Department/ Unit/ Section: MGH Center for Community Health Improvement-
Charlestown Substance Abuse Coalition (CSAC)

Reports To: This position will report to the CSAC Coordinator as well as the Opiate Overdose Prevention Committee.

GENERAL SUMMARY/ OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

The Charlestown Substance Abuse Coalition (CSAC) has secured funds from a Massachusetts Department of Public Health Grant for the next 2.5 years through the Boston Public Health Commission. This initiative includes a program targeting high-risk adults who are struggling with addiction to opiates and are at risk for an opiate overdose. The Community Health Worker (CHW/ Navigator) position will provide and secure a relationship based system of linkages to continuum of care services in an effort to prevent and reduce the risks associated with and occurrences of overdose. The focus of service revolves around a community-based referral system, relapse prevention and post overdose intervention. In addition the CHW/ Navigator will conduct substance abuse and overdose prevention activities within the community and will support participants' ability to become agents of change for themselves and others.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary responsibility of the CHW/ Navigator is to:

1. **Establish working relationships** with institutions and organizations where target populations are being served, i.e. Correctional Institutions, Court systems, Detoxes and other highly used treatment facilities, First Responders and Emergency Rooms. Assist the project with development and maintenance of collaborative relationships with other Substance Abuse/Treatment service providers and local resources.
2. **To establish** trusting relationships with those Charlestown residents in continued recovery from or actively using opiates; and/or their families.
 - a. Do street outreach for participant recruitment, education, and harm reduction counseling.
 - b. Complete assessments on individual needs, readiness and service interest
 - c. Design goal and management plan with participants
 - d. Create referrals as necessary including to case management
 - e. Work with individuals to decrease barriers to services including but not limited to: - Accompanying or arranging company for program participants to detox/rehab facilities, medical and counseling appointments, housing, Welfare, and other agencies as necessary
 - f. Provide follow up and care coordination to services, change plan based on ongoing evaluation with participants
 - g. Provide participants with harm reduction and overdose prevention education and information
 - h. Organize workshops and education sessions including risk reduction training sessions for participants, family members and providers.
3. Accurately and carefully document all interactions in a timely fashion.
4. Attend weekly staff meetings and chart reviews.
5. Attend weekly supervisory sessions with the CSAC Coordinator.
6. Attend training and other workshops as requested by Clinical supervisor (CSAC Coordinator)
7. Perform other related tasks as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Bachelors Degree preferred, and/or relevant Associates degree although candidates with 3 years of relevant work experience will be considered as well.
2. Knowledge of the Charlestown Community, knowledge and previous engagement with the Recovery Community and with service providers.

SKILLS/ ABILITIES/ COMPETENCIES REQUIRED

1. Demonstrated leadership and communication skills.
2. Demonstrated experience in working with individuals and families in with additions and in recovery
3. Demonstrated experience developing and maintaining relationships with service providers
4. Experience conducting one to one interview sessions, and use of assessment and planning tools
5. Knowledge of the surrounding community, organizations, resources, and systems for necessary referrals.
6. Established knowledge of, and ability to impart harm reduction philosophy and provide individual training and education
7. Knowledge of the related fields of substance abuse/ overdose prevention; and community mobilization around drug-related harm, including HIV and Hepatitis C.
8. Creativity, flexibility, sound judgment, and ability to work independently and take initiative.
9. Demonstrated commitment to working with individuals in recovery for substance abuse, those at risk for opiate overdose.
10. Ability to set weekly goals for program participants and monitor on an ongoing basis.
11. Strong work ethic and ability to effectively strategize and problem-solve when needed.
12. Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to interact professionally with culturally diverse staff and participants.
13. Computer literate: strong knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Access

WORKING CONDITIONS:

This is a full time / 40 hour a week position with benefits through Massachusetts General Hospital
15 hours/week of street and provider outreach.

20 hours weekly of assessment, planning, referral and follow up.

5 hours weekly of education, information dissemination and trainings.

2-3 hours/week of individual and group supervision and training. 2 hours in office data collection and entry
Day, evening and weekend hours required.

Salary commensurate with experience

MGH is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Charlestown residents encouraged to apply

For more information, contact The Charlestown Substance Abuse Coalition at info@csac-chad.org or apply directly at www.partners.org (under careers tab)