



Perinatal Peer Support Workers

Employer: Peach Tree Perinatal Wellness
Work Type: Casual, multiple positions available
Sector: Not for Profit
Location: North Brisbane

About the role

Our perinatal peer support services are for mothers who are experiencing perinatal mental illness (such as ante or postnatal depression and anxiety). We require Peer Workers who have a lived experience of perinatal mental illness, including a story of hope and/or recovery, to help us deliver our valuable perinatal peer support services.

We have existing services located at Caboolture, Stafford and Bulimba. Our Perinatal Peer Workers will be expected to travel between service locations in Brisbane, own transport is essential.

Peer Workers report directly to the Peer Worker Supervisor, and are required to work cohesively with the other team peer workers to ensure our service runs in accordance to the organisational aims, objectives and values.

Key Responsibilities:

- Facilitating group meetings for mothers with perinatal mental illness, to increase social supports and reduce isolation. This includes the set up and pack up of group resources/activities before and after groups.
- Delivery of education through our “building resilience” program.
- Empower parents to take charge and control of their wellbeing and the decisions that need to be made around those issues. A Peer Worker should demonstrate hope, optimism, and self-responsibility.
- Working within an appropriate Duty of Care to all persons who access Peach Tree services.
- The role of a Peer Worker is to build, support, and strengthen the existing social, family, and community network of a Parent.
- Assist with effective and accurate reporting and record keeping to Management.
- Maintain regular communication with the Peer Worker Supervisor to report on the progress of the group, advise of any problems or concerns regarding the group and to seek advice on methods to best practice.
- Participate in training and supervision opportunities. There are mandatory Training days (see below).
- Maintain a level of appearance and personal hygiene that supports professionalism.



Selection Criteria

Education/Qualifications

- Completion of, or willingness to complete the Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Support
- Completion of, or willingness to complete Circle of Security Training.

Peach Tree is able to provide assistance in the enrolment in study. Study fees are fully subsidised at no cost to the successful applicants. Study will commence on a part time, external basis as soon as possible.

Knowledge/Skills/Experience

- Lived experience accompanied by an experience of finding a path of recovery
- Capacity to relate to people from a perspective of having an experience of mental illness, and to assist participants by modelling recovery principles and strategies in a manner that is helpful and respectful
- Able to draw on a range of experiences and approaches to support a community member through their recovery journey
- Comprehensive understanding and belief in the possibility of recovery
- Ability to establish relationships and maintain appropriate boundaries with community members both in one on one and group settings
- Demonstrated communication skills to record information, listen to and communicate effectively with participants and other staff
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team environment with the skills to work cooperatively with other staff as well as working independently
- Self-awareness and commitment to self-care
- Demonstrated awareness of and ability to regulate own emotional reactions
- Ability to assist and encourage participants to establish and maintain community linkages and networks
- Ability to engage with a diverse range of people with skills and confidence to work to create an equal and respectful environment
- Demonstrated ability to use self-reflection as an opportunity to learning
- High level of organisational skills and self-motivation; able to manage time and tasks efficiently
- Excellent negotiation and conflict management skills
- Understanding of local health and community sectors and community groups
- Capacity to build and maintain strong working relationships with key stakeholders, to build and participate in effective partnerships for the benefit of community, clients, programs and organisation
- Current Working with Children Check and Criminal Record Check (If not currently held, Peach Tree will assist successful applicants to obtain).



Conditions and benefits:

The Peer Support Worker position is offered on a casual basis at a rate of \$29/hr plus superannuation. It is expected Peer Workers will work approximately 10 hours per week during school term, with a reduced workload during school holidays. The position is for a twelve month period, with possible extension thereafter. The position is suitable for a working mother.

Dates for consideration:

Before applying, please consider the following:

- Applicants who reach successful interview stage will be advised by 5pm Tuesday, 15th August.
- Successful interview applicants should be available for interview on the afternoon of Tuesday, 22nd August at the Brisbane PHN Lutwyche Office.
- Successful applicants will participate in mandatory training on Thursday 31st & Friday 1st September from 9:30am – 4:30pm.
- Successful applicants will participate in mandatory training on Saturday 2nd September and Saturday 8th September from 9:00am – 2:00pm
- Work will commence the week starting Monday, 4th September.

To Apply:

Please send:

- A copy of your curriculum vitae, including full contact details and overview of education and working history;
- A written statement, approximately one A4 in length, addressing how you are suitable for the position.
- A cover letter, providing a brief overview (no more than 300 words) of your lived experience including your story of hope/recovery.

Please forward your applications electronically to peachtree@peachtree.org.au before 5pm on Friday, 11th August 2017.

For any enquiries regarding this opportunity, please call Viv Kissane on 0430 046 326 between Monday – Friday working hours.