

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position:	Casual Peer Support Mentor (Justice)
Program Area:	Peer Projects, Family Drug Treatment Court
Agency:	Self Help Addiction Resource Centre Inc. (SHARC)
Hours:	one 4 - 5 hour shift (fortnightly)
Duration of the position:	6 month contract (possible extension)
Location:	Shepparton
Salary:	Dependent on experience and qualifications. Superannuation and salary packaging options available.
Responsible to:	SHARC Peer Projects Coordinator

INTRODUCTION

SHARC – The Self Help Addiction Resource Centre (SHARC) promotes self-help approaches to recovery from severe alcohol and drug related issues. SHARC provides opportunities for individuals, families and communities affected by addiction and related problems to recover and achieve meaningful, satisfying and contributing lives. SHARC works with families, individuals and young people to provide housing, education, advocacy and family support.

SHARC's programs and services include: • Residential Peer Programs (RPP) • Family Drug Help (FDH) • Peer Projects • Association of Participating Service Users (APSU)

PEER PROJECTS - At Peer Projects we believe in the value of lived experience, one peer helping another, at all levels of the service system. Since its establishment, SHARC's practice and service delivery has been underpinned by peer support.

Peer Projects is the lead sector resource for peer activities and peer workforce Page 2 of 3 development, working alongside the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to support the growth, development and sustainability of Victoria's AOD peer workforce. Peer Projects focuses on state wide capacity building of peer support activities, and the development of the AOD peer workforce discipline.

FAMILY DRUG TREATMENT COURT - The Family Drug Treatment Court (FDTC) is a judicially monitored, therapeutic 12-month program conducted in a highly supportive non-adversarial environment. The program seeks to engage parents whose children have been taken into care due to parental substance misuse or dependence and uses intensive case coordination and holistic therapeutic intervention to address issues of substance misuse with the aim of achieving safe and sustainable family reunification of parents and their children.

SHARC works with the Family Drug Treatment Court to provide Peer Mentors to families undergoing the program. SHARC recruits, trains and supervises the Peer Support Mentors who work in the justice system. Our Peer Support Mentors have been a part of the Family Drug Treatment Court (FDTC) Broadmeadows program since April 2015.

POSITION OVERVIEW

A Peer Support Mentor utilises their lived experience of alcohol and other drugs, plus skills learned in formal training, to deliver services in support of others. As a Peer Support Mentor you will provide direct, one-on-one and group, support to FDTC participants. Your role is to positively mentor participants whilst they are going through the program, offering genuine empathy, understanding and practical support.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Offer one on one and group peer support from the lens of a lived experience
- Provide effective mentoring focused on practical strategies to assist parents and families to navigate the program and achieve their goals
- Provide a report after each shift to allocated SHARC Supervisor, using template provided
- Receive confidential referrals and contact parents allocated
- Work according to the Peer Mentor Guidelines
- Participate in ancillary activities at the FDTC with participants
- Maintain weekly contact with allocated SHARC Supervisor
- Attend and participate in all required organisational trainings and events

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Lived experience of alcohol and/or drug issues and recovery
- Experience in giving and receiving peer support
- Ability to engage and work with people from diverse backgrounds
- Ability to develop and maintain positive relationships with peers, family, community and services
- Ability to encourage self-empowerment, perseverance, resilience and optimism
- Capacity to remain self-aware and maintain boundaries
- Well-developed communication and organisational skills
- Capacity to work independently and take initiative
- Ability to access transport to Shepparton
- Working with Children's Check

DESIRABLE

- Experience as a parent within the child protection system who believes they have something positive to offer other parents going through this experience (preferred)
- Current Driver's License (preferred)

OTHER INFORMATION

- An offer of employment will be subject to the satisfactory clearance of a criminal records check

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please send your resume and a cover letter responding to the key selection criteria to Peer Projects at SHARC:

Email: peersupport@sharc.org.au

Phone: 0499 392 994

Post: SHARC, 140 Grange Road, Carnegie Vic 3163

Applications close: Friday 23rd April, 5pm