

JOB DESCRIPTION

Battle Buddies [Peer Support Specialist – Veteran Peer Access Network]

Position Overview: The Battle Buddies are responsible for creating a community of recovery in SHARE! programs under the VPAN contract. The Peer Support Specialist will provide direct support to veterans and their families through direct peer services, tailored case management, referrals to self-help support groups, crisis intervention, and linkage to essential services. This role emphasizes outreach to underserved populations including women veterans and LGBTQ+ individuals, and supports family engagement and reintegration efforts.

Key Responsibilities:

Provide peer support to Veterans and Military Families

Support with community integration, connecting to VA benefits, mental health resources, housing, and employment

Provide one-on-one support focused on housing navigation, benefit enrollment, and stigma reduction

Facilitate referrals to LA County CES, VA benefits, DMH navigators, and health/substance use services

Initiate outreach to start new self-help support groups; provide evidence-based referrals to self-help support groups; facilitate weekly support groups for both veterans and their families

Manage high stress situations/interventions; provide crisis management as needed

Maintain training in Trauma-Informed Care, HIPAA, and Cultural Competency for Veteran Subpopulations; participate in VFPP training for family engagement

Assist with coordinating and staffing special events, hosting monthly job fairs, family support workshops, and benefits clinics

Required:

- Peer Support Specialist (or complete certification course and CalMHSA exam within 180 days of hire)
- Align with SHARE! values and mission
- Strong communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with diverse populations
- Proficiency in documentation and record-keeping; maintains confidentiality and adheres to HIPAA regulations
- Ability to normalize difficult situations; basic knowledge of cultural competency, implicit bias and microaggressions
- Flexibility to work evenings and weekends
- Reliable transportation and ability to travel in the field, must possess valid driver's license

Preferred Experience:

- Familiarity with veteran services, housing programs, and mental health systems

- At least one (1) year experience working with unhoused veterans; or experience working with women veterans; or experience working with justice-impacted veterans
- Higher education or certifications in social work, psychology, or related field
- Bilingual any language a plus, especially Spanish

Disclaimer: the above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this classification. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required of personnel so classified. All personnel may be required to perform duties outside of their normal responsibilities as needed.

SHARE! is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We value people who have turned their lives around after difficult circumstances including felony convictions, mental health challenges and other problems. SHARE! will not use any information submitted with your application for any other purpose than employment at SHARE!

Compensation: \$24.30-28.85/hour, plus PTO, paid Holidays, affordable medical/dental/vision insurance, and option to contribute to 403(b)