

Peer Support Worker Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Permanent | Full Time

The road to recovery is not straight and we acknowledge that everyone's journey is different. We know how hard it is to seek and accept support you when you are in a dark place. The Peer Support Worker understands this because they have LIVED it. This role is critical to our community, as the Peer Support Worker is one of the first people our RAAM clients are welcomed by. In order to thrive in this role, you must have walked this path yourself and come out successfully on the other side with the stability and skillset to interact comfortably with humans who are active in their disease. You demonstrate mastery of the delicate balance between maintaining professional boundaries while engaging with empathy and compassion. You are an advocate who believes deeply in harm reduction and trauma-informed care.

What we do and why we do it:

The RAAM clinic model intends to fill a void in the addiction treatment system by providing immediate access to evidence-based addiction care. Services are low-barrier, accessible and patient centred. The strength of this model is the walk-in nature that meets patient needs the same day. This 'window of opportunity' is often missed in the addiction treatment system with long waits for appointments and difficult intake procedures. RAAM services include assessment, treatment planning, case management, psycho-social interventions, and pharmacotherapy.

The Peer Support Worker works with clients with addiction as well as with mental, physical and social complexities. Reporting to the RAAM Team Lead and working collaboratively within our Primary Healthcare Team, this is a new role which will evolve based on identified needs of the program. This is a full-time permanent position.

What you will do:

- Provide individual peer support for people impacted by substance use using a recovery-oriented framework and harm reduction philosophy
- Promote peer support philosophy and empower people through their recovery journey
- Facilitate a variety of groups
- Build relationships with clients to understand community context and reduce barriers that limit access to health and social support
- Apply principles of trauma-informed care in all interactions
- Respond to crisis and emergency situations
- Participate in coalition building and networking
- Driving clients to community destinations (paused during the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Adhere to Peer Support Canada's Code of Conduct and Standards of Practice
- Assist with data collection and entry as directed

What you bring:

- Completion of the CMHA Calgary School of Peer Support course considered a strong asset
- Two years related experience (volunteering or paid), preferably in peer support working with individuals with substance use or mental health concerns
- Lived experience of a substance use concern
- Standard First Aid – Level C CPR & AED within 30 days of hire date, certification must be valid for a minimum of 6 months upon hire
- A satisfactory vulnerable sector criminal record clearance is required
- Class 5 non-GDL driver's license, a personal vehicle, a clean driver's abstract, and \$2 million liability insurance required
- Non-violent Crisis Intervention and Mental Health First Aid and/or ASIST an asset
- Superior engagement skills
- Base level of computer skills
- Comfortable working independently and as part of a team
- Ability to contribute to a positive work environment and team culture
- High level of initiative and self-motivation
- Flexible and adaptable
- High level of self-awareness
- Determined and committed to excellence
- Knowledge of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRC) 94 Calls to Action considered an asset

Working Environment:

- 1.0 FTE (37.5 hours/week)
- Primarily based in the main Alex building but requires frequent driving clients to appointments as part of work duties
- Continuous extended periods of sitting, standing, and walking (sometimes up or down stairwells)
- Occasional physical action, and requires the ability to bend/crouch, reach above shoulder height, kneel/crawl, and carry objects (up to 20 lbs.) throughout shift
- Occasional time outside in all weather conditions

Driving on Behalf of The Alex:

This position is required to use your own vehicle for work-related use or drive Alex vehicles for work purposes. Where required, candidates must show proof of a class 5 non-GDL driver's license, a personal vehicle, a clean 5-year drivers abstract, and \$2 million liability insurance to meet our insurance providers requirements.

How to apply:

If you're as passionate as we are about making a difference in people's lives, please visit our Career Centre at [Jobs at The Alex | The Alex](#).

This posting will remain active until a suitable candidate is found. We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

For further information about The Alex and its programs, we encourage you to visit our website at www.thealex.ca

Acknowledgement & Receipt Sign-off

Employee's Signature

Supervisor's Signature

Date

Date