



## **Outreach Worker**

**Wanted:** Versatile individual to join our team at Hands On Hartford as an Outreach Worker to work as part of a collaborative partnership between Greater Hartford Harm Reduction Coalition (GHHRC), Wheeler Clinic, and Hands On Hartford (HOH) to play a key supporting role in the implementation and coordination of the Homeless Street Outreach Program. This includes actively and creatively engaging individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness in the Greater Hartford Coordinated Access. As a part of the outreach team this position will utilize various methods to locate and engage people who are experiencing homelessness including but not limited to canvassing for people living in woods/encampment areas, street outreach, ERs, soup kitchens, and any other area where a person is reported to be living outside. This position requires the ability to physically navigate different types of terrain.

**When:** Full time -Saturday-Wednesday; includes days, evenings and weekends. Flexibility in the work schedule is expected. Schedule subject to change based on the needs of the program and agency.

**Why work at Hands On Hartford:** Hands On Hartford, located in the vibrant Parkville neighborhood of Hartford, in partnership with others, strengthens community in Hartford by responding faithfully to people in need through programs that change lives and renew human possibility. We're a 51-year-old nonprofit that values diversity, team work, and takes a strengths based, collaborative approach to all we do.

**What you will do as an Outreach Worker: You will do many things including but not limited to:**

1. As a part of the outreach team, canvass streets, woods, and other areas identified as places where unsheltered people are living.
2. Work with homeless individuals identified as a high priority within the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) to obtain documents, IDs, birth certificates, homeless verifications, and income verification in preparation for housing services.
3. Provide targeted services to homeless individuals each week, resulting in individuals being added to the CAN By Name List, shelter waitlist, and or housed.
4. Provide referrals, supportive services, employment and job training supports, transportation, and crisis prevention/management each week to individuals in need.
5. Coordinate disability verifications being completed by appropriately credentialed staff.
6. Collaborate with a network of CAN community partners including outreach and diversion workers, shelter case managers, housing and other service providers, and understand all roles and responsibilities within the CAN in order to help the identified individual become sheltered quickly.

7. Provide creative outreach and engagement activities to connect with individuals to assess needs, plan and support services, reduce risk, assist in skill building to meet goals, and to support the physical and emotional well-being of the individuals.
8. Ensure housing first and harm reduction approach is incorporated into work; utilize strategies from Motivational Interviewing, Seeking Safety, etc.
9. Attend and represent the program/agency at identified community groups such as collaborative team coordinating huddles and meetings with GHRC and Wheeler, Community Care Team, CAN, etc.
10. Provide services in a culturally competent manner and ensure trauma sensitive care.
11. Responsible for collection, monitoring, and reporting of required goals and outcomes

**You may be a good fit if you:**

- Believe in our mission and core values.
- High school diploma required; college degree preferred. Two plus years' experience working with people experiencing homelessness in direct service capacity, case management or basic needs service work.
- Have strong verbal and written communication skills; organizational skills; and a commitment to helping families and individuals to meet their basic human needs.
- Knowledge and proficiency in using computer applications, including standard Windows application.
- Fluency in Spanish in addition to English is strongly preferred.
- Have a valid driver's license, registered and insured motor vehicle and ability to lift and carry at least 25 pounds and ability to physically navigate different types of terrain.

**What we offer full time (30 hours per week) employees:**

- Dedicated, diverse, and friendly co-workers.
- Competitive salary.
- Paid time off –holidays, vacation, personal time, and sick leave.
- Medical/dental/disability/life benefits.
- 401 K contribution and employer match.
- Free on-site off-street parking.

**If this sounds like a good fit to you:**

**Send letter of interest & resume to: Janet Bermudez, Program Manager MANNA Services**

**Hands On Hartford, 55 Bartholomew Ave, Hartford CT 06106.**

**Email [jbermudez@handsonhartford.org](mailto:jbermudez@handsonhartford.org)**

**Closing date: 2/28/21**

**AA/EOE**