

Sex Worker Outreach Coalition

Volunteer Position Description

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Objective

To support the philosophy and mission of SWOC by providing street outreach, advocacy, information/referral, assessment and support services as needed to sex workers and homeless individuals in Multnomah County.

Duties

- Street outreach to sex workers (male, female, trans, youth and homeless individuals) and businesses involved in the sex industry via street canvassing, as well as telephone and Internet communications.
- Minimum 2 hours per week or 8 hours per month.
- Make appropriate assessments and referrals to various social services.

In addition to doing street outreach, we strongly encourage SWOC volunteers to participate in other SWOC projects and events as they arise.

Qualifications

- Must be 21+ years of age.
- Complete and pass Criminal Background Check (criminal history does not automatically make you ineligible).
- Ability to work regular outreach shifts and be reliable.
- Willingness to approach and assist homeless population on the streets.
- Outgoing personality.
- Knowledge or willingness to learn common resources available to homeless population.
- Ability to be flexible and contribute to the growth of SWOC's programs, events, and activities.
- Have access to reliable and safe transportation.
- Adhere to SWOC's safety policies and procedures.
- Adhere to harm reduction philosophy (a belief that anything that reduces a person's risk of harm: condoms, clean needles etc. should be encouraged versus an all or nothing approach: abstinence, judgment about drug behavior)
- Understanding and ability to maintain good boundaries with clients.
- Be able to maintain confidentiality and work with clients around sensitive issues.
- Have good listening and communication skills.
- Possess open, non-judgmental attitude towards the populations we serve regardless of specific situation, culture, race, religion, size, sexual/gender identity or physical/mental ability.
- Ability to attend 8 hour SWOC training prior to starting
- Attend SWOC meetings on a regular basis (General meetings held once every other month)

Benefits

- Have a positive impact on the world and our community by providing information, advocacy, and support services to those involved in the sex industry.
- Contribute to the mission of SWOC and participate in creative projects, events and trainings.
- Work with equally dedicated volunteers and staff.
- Gain skills and experience that may be of value for current or future personal, educational or career goals.
- Participation in working towards a goal of enhancing the community's responsiveness to rights of people working in the sex industry.