



SafeLink Alberta (formerly HIV Community Link) is an organization delivering services throughout Southern Alberta. As a non-profit organization, we work to reduce the harms associated with sexual activity and substance use. We serve and advocate for priority populations by offering low-barrier, non-judgemental, and informed programs and services. We offer a fun and energetic environment that provide opportunities for you to utilize your talents and develop new skills.

Peer Navigator

At SafeLink Alberta, we have a clear vision: to be the place where a diverse mix of talented people want to come, stay and do their best work. SafeLink Alberta's dedication to promoting diversity, multiculturalism, and inclusion is clearly reflected in all that we do. Diversity is more than a commitment at SafeLink Alberta - it is the foundation of what we do. We are fully focused on equality and believe deeply in diversity of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, national origin, and any other difference that makes us all unique.

We are seeking HIV+ individuals in Calgary, Alberta to work with People Living with HIV (PLHW) to develop strategies to maintain or improve health and wellness outcomes and self-management. Working collaboratively with other community partners and resources, the Peer Navigator will provide system navigation, advocacy, education, emotional support, and linkage to health and wellness resources relevant to living with HIV. Delivered within a harm reduction and human rights-based philosophy, interventions will include one on one supports, as well as the facilitation and co-facilitation of peer support groups and activities for PLWH in the community. Peer Navigators will also help develop engaging and informative sessions to best serve the needs of participants and facilitate the success of these sessions.

These are casual positions (maximum 20 hours per week). Hours of work will be negotiated with the supervisor; however, applicants must be available to work weekdays and weeknights. The position will report directly to the Lead, Outreach and Peer Support within Calgary Support Services.

Key Responsibilities

Individualized Support Services

- Conduct intake and assessment of new program participants.
- Provide education and emotional support relating to living with HIV, sexual health, STBBI prevention, mental health, trauma, and substance use.
- Provide health care system navigation, referrals, and accompaniment to appointments to ensure linkage to medical care related to HIV.
- Provide education on and referrals to other SafeLink Alberta services and/or other relevant health and wellness services.
- Engage in prevention discussions and activities, including the distribution of harm reduction supplies (safer sex and safer drug use equipment), based on client needs.
- Support clients in developing self-management skills as needed.
- With the support of the Manager, Calgary Support Services and Lead, Outreach and Peer Support and in collaboration with team members, facilitate case discussions to support knowledge development and client-centered care.
- In collaboration with the Manager, Calgary Support Services and Lead, Outreach and Peer Support, develop and maintain inter-agency collaborative relationships with community partners to enhance service delivery and outreach to program target populations.

- Understand and communicate key agency positions and values in a professional and situation-appropriate manner.

Outreach and Education

- Facilitate positive peer group discussions with a group of diverse participants.
- Maintain the confidentiality of group participants.
- Mediate group discussions and resolve conflicts as necessary.
- Monitor progress of groups and provide insight into their activities to the Lead, Outreach and Peer Support on a regular basis.
- Maintain and enhance knowledge of emerging information, laws, and trends regarding HIV and other STBBIs through ongoing, self-directed learning.

Evaluation & Administration

- Maintain program statistics, documentation, and participate in ongoing program evaluation and reporting.
- Participate as a collaborative and supportive team member of the Calgary Support Services team.
- Participate in agency events and activities.
- Comply with agency policies and procedures, including but not limited to maintaining confidentiality of participants and business operations in accordance with SafeLink procedures and policies.

Qualifications/ Key Competencies

- Living with HIV+ diagnosis and willingness and ability to:
 - Draw upon personal experience with HIV to support others
 - Work within the community with transparency about HIV+ status
 - Work in partnership with health and social service professionals
 - Provide individualized emotional support and service navigation in both one on one and group settings
- Strong emotional self-management skills and ability to work independently.
- Strong, solid support system in place, along with active implementation of self-care strategies.
- Thorough knowledge of local and regional social service programs and community resources.
- High ethical standards and professionalism with a demonstrated ability to maintain confidentiality and appropriate boundaries.
- Understanding of harm reduction practices, and the needs of Persons Living with HIV (PLWH).
- Strong active listening skills and ability to work with a non-judgmental approach.
- Strong group facilitation and engagement skills an asset.
- Foundational knowledge of and orientation to: intersectionality, trauma-informed, and anti-oppressive practice frameworks an asset.
- Demonstrated cultural awareness and responsiveness in working across diverse populations an asset.
- Knowledge of hepatitis C and other STBBIs, gender and sexual diversities, sex work, and related issues an asset.
- Knowledge of immigration, refugees, and citizenship an asset.
- Current Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVCI) or MANDT, Suicide Intervention (ASIST), and First Aid/CPR certifications an asset.
- Provision of a criminal security check with vulnerable sector search every three years. A positive criminal record check will not necessarily preclude a candidate from being hired decisions will be made on an individual basis and all information will be kept confidential.

- Successful candidates may be required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination prior to their start date

Compensation

The salary range for this position is \$20.74.00 - \$25.00 per hour.

Application Details

We especially encourage applications from communities that are under-represented among our staff, such as people living with HIV, visible minorities, those with lived/living experience, and persons with culturally diverse backgrounds. We value your lived experience, and we encourage you to self-identify in your application should you feel comfortable doing so.

This position will remain open until suitable candidates are found. Please send your cover letter, resume, and any other relevant material to support your application via email to human.resources@safelinkalberta.ca quoting job reference **SLA – 176**.

You must be available for in-person/online interviews. No phone calls please. We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.