



Elder Advocate — Trainer

Vera House, Inc. is a human service agency that provides unconditional care for individuals and families through comprehensive domestic and sexual violence prevention and intervention services. We believe in collectively serving members of the community and creating an environment of accountability for our services. We strive to provide our employees with flexible schedules, when possible, a level of autonomy to complete their work, and a culture of belonging. We strive to interrupt the norms that cause harm and perpetuate oppression.

This position will handle day to day activities of the elder abuse advocate/trainer position. This position will provide advocacy services to older adults experiencing elder abuse, intimate partner or dating violence, stalking and sexual assault including face-to-face crisis intervention and/or providing group support. In addition, this position will provide training of law enforcement and victim service providers in the community and assist the Abuse in Later Life Coordinator in other grant related duties, as assigned.

Job Reporting Relationships:

Supervisor(s): Abuse in Later Life Coordinator / Advocacy Case Manager

Supervises: None

Basic Qualifications:

Education/Training: Bachelor's degree in human services or related field preferred

Competencies:

- Knowledge of community service delivery systems, in particular thorough knowledge of the criminal and civil justice systems and services for older adults in the community

- Thorough knowledge of elder abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault Ability to work in partnership with diverse individuals
- Ability to work independently Strong training and facilitation skills
- Prompt response to crisis as well as thorough and consistent follow up with victims/clients and delivery systems
- Ability to work with as well as maintain a positive working relationship with community members
- Ability to provide trauma informed services and knowledge of crisis intervention techniques
- Ability to develop a positive, compassionate rapport with victims of elder abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, or other violent trauma
- Ability to adapt to demanding situations and work well under pressure Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite
- Ability to work effectively in a crisis-oriented setting with diverse individuals Good interpersonal, oral communication and written skills
- Appreciation and respect for other cultures and people of diverse backgrounds

Experience: Experience in a related field preferred.

Experience working with older adults preferred.

Essential Duties:

- Provide crisis intervention, local service delivery systems advocacy, and short- term counseling and support to individuals and families experiencing abuse in later life, domestic violence, sexual assault, or other violent crimes including, emotional support to victims and their families, face to face and telephone crisis intervention at the request of the victims and referral sources
- Assist victims/clients in identifying, understanding, and prioritizing problems and in obtaining information on available resources as well as assist in seeking help from intervention systems, including criminal justice, legal, medical counseling, and income programs at various community partner locations
- Provide training to law enforcement and victim service providers in a team- teaching mode using the Elder Abuse curriculum
- Serve as a liaison and build positive working relationships with community members and partnering agencies
- Facilitate groups for those affected by abuse in later life and provide support
- Educate older victims and family members about the dynamics and impact of abuse in later life
- Collect, analyze, and report program outputs and outcome data to funding sources
- Maintain database consistent with Vera House practices
- Adhere to all Vera House policies, procedures, and safety protocols Provide community presentations about abuse in later life

- Collaborate with, and build and maintain positive working relationships with community members and partnering agencies
- Manage difficult and/or emotional situations and respond promptly to client needs
- Ensure a warm and welcoming environment to all visitors
- Participate in the Elder Justice Coalition; sit on the Onondaga County Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team; attend Partner Meetings and support and assist the Project Coordinator in projects.
- Ensure that all services are maintained in accordance with the Agency's mission and goals
- Respond to various 24-hour crisis line and on-call shifts for sexual assault callouts in Onondaga County
- Understands and values racial equity as an organizational operating principle and is committed to continued learning on issues related to race, equity, diversity, and inclusion

Ancillary Duties

This position is responsible to provide related assistance wherever necessary to help the Agency achieve its goals and embrace and promote the Vera House mission.

Equipment/Machines

Telephone, computers, projectors, speakers, copier, calculator, and automobile

Physical Demands

Mobility to work in various locations including a typical office setting and use standard office equipment, vision to read printed materials and a computer screen, distance vision suitable of independent driving/travel, and hearing and speech to communicate in person or over the telephone. Individual must be able to lift 30 pounds. Accommodations may be made for some of these physical demands for qualified individuals who require and request such accommodations.

Work Environment and Environmental Conditions

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions. The noise level and work environment are usually moderate. The air quality is usually moderate. There is limited exposure to physical risk.

SALARY RANGE

\$39,000 - \$41,000

Vera House provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to:

jobs@verahouse.org