

## **MENTAL HEALTH PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST – ACT, JAIL DIVERSION, AND BESTCLUB - PRINEVILLE, OREGON**

BestCare Treatment Services in Prineville is recruiting for a Mental Health Peer Support Specialist, ACT, Jail Diversion and BestClub! This is a Full Time regular positions that includes a competitive benefits package, FOUR WEEKS of paid time off, NINE recognized holidays, and a retirement account option. Starting salary for this position is \$16.00 - \$20.99/hour DOE. **Bilingual strongly preferred and compensation (or pay) commensurate with bilingual skillset.**

BestCare Treatment Services is proud to be one of the longest-term providers of alcohol & drug rehabilitation and mental health services in the Central Oregon region. We got our start in November of 1997, thanks to a partnership between Deschutes County, State of Oregon, and St. Charles Medical Center. From a modest, singular drug rehab center, we have grown to offering residential and outpatient services in four cities in addition to the only Spanish-speaking alcohol and drug rehab facility in the state. We have helped thousands of people find the help they need in a caring and collaborative environment and we remain true to our founding mission:

***To advocate and provide compassionate care in the treatment and prevention of addiction and mental illness.***

As an agency, BestCare has a family feel with a supportive staff of hard-working professionals whose compassion and dedication is unmatched in our industry. They are smart, kind, innovative and strive to offer the best services available under all circumstances. Does this sound like you? If so, we invite you to join our team by applying for this exciting position.

Located in beautiful Central Oregon, Prineville, Oregon, is home to scenic river gorges, deep desert canyons, and other delightful treasures. The community is tight-knit and is known for its livability, affordability, community spirit and its easy access to many outdoor activities. The surrounding landscape offers gorgeous snow-capped mountain views, fresh, clean rivers and lakes and breezy high desert plains. Prineville is in close proximity to a myriad of destination locations for fun and relaxation including the breath-taking Cascade Mountains, world famous Smith Rocks State Park, and Cove Palisades State Park on Lake Billy Chinook just to name a few.

If this sounds enticing, don't wait! Apply today and join the family!

**Title:** Mental Health Peer Support Specialist – ACT, Jail Diversion and BestClub

**Program:** Crook County CMHP

**Program Location:** Prineville, Oregon

**Employment Status:** Full Time Regular

**FLSA Classification:** Non-Exempt (Hourly)

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**General Duties:** The Peer Support Specialist position is an integral part of the treatment team. Peer support specialists must have lived experience, and they are integral in promoting recovery from mental health issues by sharing their own experiences and coaching and

supporting through clients their own struggles. This position is part of two outreach programs (Assertive Community Treatment – ACT, and Jail Diversion) which serves high acuity clients who do not typically do well in the traditional office setting. Additionally, this position will be part of BestClub, our clubhouse that provides skills and activities, in individual and group formats, to SPMI clients. The Peer Support Specialist will provide support to clients in these programs which might include clients discharging from subacute/residential mental health treatment or psychiatric hospitalization, clients with serious mental health issues, and those with higher risk with self-harm and suicidality. The Peer Support Specialist facilitates the development of recovery skills. The Peer Support Specialist provides opportunities for individuals to direct their own recovery process and support the learning and utilization of skills needed to foster recovery. The Peer Support Specialist will be knowledgeable of available service options, will promote the utilization of natural support systems, will facilitate the development of a sense of wellness and self-worth, and will work with a treatment team to promote the goals of the person in services.

### **Job Relationships:**

- Reports to: ACT Lead Clinician/Supervisor & Program Director
- Employees Supervised: None

### **Duties:**

MH Peer Support Specialist duties will largely consist of the following (but not be limited to):

- Direct interactions with clients who are assigned to peer support services, and act as a role model to clients to inspire hope and share life experiences as appropriate to the recovery process.
- Telephone contacts, which include talking with clients who need support and are struggling and may be prone toward self-harm/suicidality or prone to making bad decisions. Also, doing reminder calls to clients who are scheduled for assessments, groups, individual sessions, medication management appointments, and other BestCare services.
- Transportation: Taking clients to some appointments, when appropriate, if approved by supervisor. Transporting clients to/from acute care or mental health residential treatment to outpatient services at BestCare. Transporting clients to other agencies when they need assistance with accessing benefits (i.e. Social Security Office-Bend, DHS-Aging & Persons w/Disabilities, etc.). Occasionally transport client to appointment related to Supported Employment services.
- Identify recovering person's abilities, strengths and assets and assist them to recognize and use them.
- Identify barriers to full participation and focus on strategies to overcome them.
- Helping monitor clients who are in residential/higher levels of mental health care, or jail, to stay connected to them and ensure that they remain connected to Crook County outpatient mental health services.
- Referrals to various services, when appropriate (i.e. Food Bank, LINC, primary care/medical services, community college, parenting, etc.).
- Attend program and all staff meetings as well as supervision meetings.
- Helping clinicians in groups at the office, jail, etc. Providing back-up in groups and other treatment activities, as needed.

- Helping clients develop and connect to community-based pro-social or wellness-oriented recovery activities.
- Maintaining accurate documentation within agency stated timelines.
- Other duties as assigned.

### **Minimum Requirements:**

1. Education: High School diploma or equivalent.
2. Must meet the Oregon Administrative Rules definition of a peer: “Any individual who has similar life experience, either as a current or former recipient of addictions or mental health services, or as a family member of an individual who is a current or former recipient of addictions or mental health services.”
3. Must hold a Peer Support Specialist certification from a State-approved training program. New Hires that do not hold a current certification must make an application within the first six months of employment (or sooner). If the employee does not have this certification, she/he will be referred to IPS training by BestCare and must attend/complete the training and obtain IPS certification at the soonest possible opportunity. Priority will be given to applicants currently certified.
4. Familiarity with mental illness and substance abusing population as well as and people with disabilities, as well as community resources.
5. Lived experience and understanding of the unique difficulties of those who are transient or experiencing homelessness is preferred, but not required.
6. If in recovery from mental illness and/or substance abuse, must be able to demonstrate continuous sobriety under non-residential, independent living conditions for the immediate past two years.
7. Valid Driver’s license and appropriate auto insurance.

### **Skills & Abilities:**

1. Knowledge of mental illness and alcohol/drug addiction; community resources and recovery programs.
2. Communicate clearly, concisely and effectively orally and in writing
3. Maintain documentation in the EMR/Electronic Medical Record program.
4. Work well with clients, co-workers, and community partners of diverse backgrounds.
5. Work independently and as a team member. Must have the ability to get along with co-workers.
6. Ability to function in crisis situations.

### **Physical Demands:**

The physical demands 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 the essential functions. While performing this job, the employee is regularly required to reach with hands and arms. The employee is frequently required to stand, walk, and use hands to handle, feel or operate objects or controls. The employee is occasionally required to sit; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; and talk and hear. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to twenty (20) pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision and the ability to adjust focus.

**Work Environment:**

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 the essential functions.

This position requires the employee to dress in a professional manner that meets the standards for professional employees in Central Oregon.

**To Apply:**

Please complete an application using the link below along with a cover letter, resume, personal email address for communications and contact information for three supervisory references.

[Application for Employment – BestCare \(bestcaretreatment.org\)](http://bestcaretreatment.org)