



Career Posting – Peer Support Specialist

The Community

AppHealthCare serves the vibrant communities of Alleghany, Ashe, and Watauga Counties nestled in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains in Northwestern North Carolina. Take a quick look around and witness the many expressions of community pride and southern hospitality – a smile from someone walking downtown, a thriving culinary scene, and plenty of outdoor adventure. We experience the beauty of four seasons from white fluffy snow to colorful fall foliage. There is simply something special about these mountains and quaint small-town feels – come see for yourself!

Caring for Our Community

We are a local public health department and health center focused and committed to improving our communities' health and well-being through compassionate, high-quality care. We have about 120 full/part-time employees and about 10 contract employees. We are governed by two boards that provide strategic direction and oversight of agency functions. We have received numerous awards and distinctions for the care we provide and have recently achieved accreditation with honors. We are committed to caring for our community and providing excellent customer service.

Position:	Peer Support Specialist Substance Abuse Worker
Position #:	405-29-221
Location:	This position will serve the counties of Alleghany, Ashe, and Watauga. The home base for this position will be the Watauga Health Center located at 126 Poplar Grove Connector, Boone NC 28607.
Salary:	\$32,655 - \$51,652 annually Starting salary based on qualifications and experience.
Hours:	Full-time, 40 hours per week, between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm to serve patients during normal clinic hours of operation which are Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:45 pm. Potential to work outside normal hours for client needs, special events, or public health emergencies.
Closing Date:	Open until filled

Job Summary:

Major Duties & Responsibilities

- Connect people who use drugs (PWUD) to harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services
- Educate PWUD, their families or loved ones, and broader community member groups on harm reduction strategies, including (but not limited to) training on how to recognize an overdose, how to administer naloxone, and how to prevent an overdose
- Increase utilization of the syringe service program (SSP), assemble SSP kits, and track participation
- Weekly reporting on qualitative and quantitative data pertaining to services and supplies provided as well as quality improvement and grant reporting purposes
- Work with community partners to establish reentry support for individuals across the district once released from incarceration
- Coordinate efforts with other AppHealthCare staff engaged in substance use prevention, harm reduction, and treatment work
- Travel throughout the district to provide peer services and strengthen partnerships across counties
- Contribute to the completion and submission of progress reports to the NC Division of Public Health
- Participate in community collaboratives that contribute to program goals
- Adhere to the requirements of any local, state, or federal funding agreement addendums

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

The peer support model relies on individuals with lived experience providing supportive services to those in similar circumstances. As such, an ideal candidate would have lived experience with substance use and a strong working knowledge of navigating the recovery landscape of the High Country. A substantial understanding of and comfort in working with people across the addiction and recovery spectrum is necessary. Candidate must feel confident in being able to meet people where they are, provide peer support services while relying on client self-determination to drive individual progress and erect appropriate boundaries with clients as needed. Beyond working with individual clients, the candidate should be motivated to strengthen community partnerships and awareness concerning harm reduction practices. A valid driver's license and willingness to travel throughout the district is required.

Minimum Education & Experience

Graduation from high school and one year of experience working with PWUD in a supportive informational role; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

How to Apply

Complete an [NC State Government Application for Employment \(PD-107\)](#). The application is located on the NC Office of State Human Resources website. The application can be completed in hard copy or electronically.

A completed state application, including cover letters and resumes/CVs, should be sent to Human Resources by email to careers@apphealth.com or dropped off in person at the AppHealthCare Alleghany Health Center at 157 Health Services Road in Sparta, NC.

Benefits

For questions or more information, please contact AppHealthCare Human Resources:

(336) 372-5641 x1119 | careers@apphealth.com | AppHealthCare.com

We offer a variety of paid and voluntary employee benefits including retirement plans, health insurance, life insurance, paid parental leave annual and sick leave, and more. For more information about benefits, [visit our website](#).

AppHealthCare recruits team members who share our values of Integrity, Drive, Resilience, Service, and Community and actively support the overall public health mission of the agency.

AppHealthCare is committed to providing equal employment opportunity (EEO) to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, age, veteran's status, family medical or genetic information, sexual orientation, gender status, pregnancy, gender identity or other non-merit based factors. All recruitment and selection activities will be administered according to EEO principles, to have a diverse workforce that reflects the population of the communities the District serves.

AppHealthCare is a recovery-friendly workplace.

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