

## JOBS ANNOUNCEMENT

Safehouse is seeking a team of Community Organizers (Part-Time or Full-Time) to engage stakeholders and build community support for Safehouse's public health approach to overdose prevention in Philadelphia.

**Responsibilities:** The Community Organizer Team will be responsible for:

- **Project Management:** Launch and lead Safehouse's Community Engagement initiative over the next 12 months, culminating in the development of an infrastructure for community engagement and an increased base of engaged Philadelphians, including those from marginalized communities.
- **External Stakeholder Engagement:** Build and manage relationships, with allies and stakeholders for the project, including supporting development of contact database. Work directly and collaboratively with stakeholders, including project partners, grassroots community organizations, elected officials and their staff, funders, and community members.
- **Community Education:** Conduct outreach, have one-on-one conversations with community members; facilitate community conversations and small group meetings; build awareness of Safehouse's public health approach to overdose prevention in Philadelphia, and develop feedback mechanisms to shape community-driven policy initiatives.
- **Curriculum Development:** Develop a curriculum that Safehouse and its partners can use to facilitate discussion with various audiences city-wide.
- **Leadership Development:** Build leadership within targeted communities of people who use drugs. Identify barriers to participation. Encourage and facilitate community members in identification of policy priorities and advocacy for those policy priorities.

**Qualifications:** The ideal candidates possess many or all of the following skills and experiences:

- Understanding of Harm-reduction and commitment to Safehouse's public health approach to overdose prevention in Philadelphia.
- Understanding of how the War on Drugs has harmed communities of color and how harm reduction is an alternative to drug policy focused on criminalizing drug use.
- Applicants with a personal relationship to or lived experience with substance use and/or the criminal legal system are encouraged to apply.
- Minimum of two years of community organizing experience.
- **Project Management Experience:** Experience managing complex projects, especially launching new projects. Strong organizational skills and attention to detail are required.
- **Working with diverse Stakeholders:** Experience working effectively and connecting with diverse populations and valuing differences of race, ethnicity, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ability, education level, and socio-economic circumstances.
- **Building Coalitions:** Experience with recruiting partners, building coalitions, and working with organizations, networks, and communities. Passionate about engaging diverse partners, including members of local communities, civic organizations, non-profits, providers, faith communities and the broader community as a whole.

- **Community Organizing:** Commitment to and experience with working in close partnership with community members. Experience building leadership and mobilizing communities to advocate for policy change.
- **Strong Communication Skills:** Effective writing and speaking skills to present issues and ideas to diverse communities and groups
- **Creativity & Willingness to Experiment:** Safehouse is building a new public engagement infrastructure from scratch. A successful candidate will be willing to try new things, listen to the ideas of stakeholders, learn from unsuccessful strategies, and move the project forward.
- **Self-Directed & Comfortable with Virtual Office:** Safehouse does not yet have a location. As a new organization, Safehouse will be relying on staff to independently manage workflow and pro-actively move ahead with projects without in-person supervision.
- **Policy Background:** Ability to process, understand, and translate complex policy issues and communicate them to diverse audiences.
- **Language Skills:** Proficiency in a language other than English is a plus, but not required.
- **Strong preference for applicants currently living in Philadelphia with ties to Philadelphia communities.**

**Location:** Safehouse does not currently have a physical office. Community Organizers will work remotely and will communicate with co-worker and supervisors through technology. Extensive travel within Philadelphia is required. A monthly transpass will be provided.

Hours are flexible with some evening and weekend hours required.

**Wages: salary range:** \$33-40K for full time; \$20/hour PT

**Supervision:** At the outset, this position will report to a Staff Attorney at the AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania who represents Safehouse in legal proceedings. This will change as organizational infrastructure for Safehouse is put in place.

**How to Apply?** Please send a resume, and a cover letter and/or short video that explains your interest in Safehouse and the Community Organizer Team. Email applications materials with the subject line Safehouse Community Organizer Team to [info@safehousephilly.org](mailto:info@safehousephilly.org).

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the positions are filled.