



Housing Specialist

REST JOB DESCRIPTION

ROLE SUMMARY Real Escape from the Sex Trade (REST) exists to provide pathways to freedom, safety, and hope for sexually exploited individuals. The REST Housing Specialist is part of the Emergency Receiving Center team and is a housing focused case management position responsible for helping survivors of sexual exploitation find and maintain safe and stable housing utilizing a variety of community resources including, but not limited to, the Rapid Rehousing Program. The Housing Specialist will report to the Emergency Receiving Center Supervisor and will oversee all client related activities relating to securing permanent housing.

The Emergency Receiving Center (ERC) is one of four programs at REST and is a critical need for women in the community who are trying to exit the sex trade and reach their personal goals. The ERC provides drop-in services, a 24/7 hotline for crisis intervention support, and short-term emergency shelter for up to seven women. Women who visit the ERC will be able to receive stabilizing support like crisis intervention, case management, referrals for chemical dependency and mental health services, survivor support groups, education and life skills assistance. Guests of the ERC may be women who are actively or recently involved in the sex trade, and/or experiencing chemical dependency and mental health related needs. All of REST services utilize a relationship-based, individualized, and trauma-informed approach.

ROLES

- Act as a go-between, collaborator, and/or mediator between housing programs, service authorization, prospective landlords, REST, and survivors to increase opportunities for safe and stable housing and stability maintenance for survivors.
- Engage REST clients in trusting, collaborative relationships with the purpose of obtaining and maintaining permanent housing.
- Provide intensive housing focused case management services to REST clients while working collaboratively with community partners and resources.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Demonstrates broad and up to date understanding with Housing First Model, Coordinated Entry (CEA), Rapid Rehousing (RRH) as well as other City, County supported programs and funding resources
- Advocate for REST clients with landlords and housing programs, providing trauma-informed education.
- Develop individualized housing goal plans for survivors who are seeking permanent housing
- Assist survivors with HMIS entries, CEA Assessments, completing housing applications and taking clients to necessary appointments
- Participate in collaborative care planning with a survivor's other professional and natural supports
- Provide ongoing support for survivors after they are housed to ensure continued stabilization
- Monitor and track success before, during, and after housing placement
- Maintain case notes and files in an orderly, up-to-date manner, including monthly reporting requirements
- Utilize relationship-based, trauma-informed, and strength-based principles in approach with survivors
- Be mindful to help build a culture of cooperation rather than competition throughout REST
- Ensure cultural differences of survivors are appreciated, accepted and contribute to individualized care plans
- Maintain clear, professional and appropriate boundaries with REST clients
- Model healthy communication, responding to cues from survivors in an empowering manner
- Utilize prevention and de-escalation tactics to maintain safety, follow the escalation protocol as needed

QUALIFICATIONS

- 2+ years of experience working with vulnerable populations
- Experience in case management required, experience with rapid rehousing preferred
- Bachelor's degree in a social science field
- Track record of success working with housing systems
- Able to effectively work in a diverse workplace, and be self-aware regarding issues of race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion/spirituality and disability
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to build rapport and trust
- Must be able to thrive in a high intensity, and often unpredictable work environment, responding to escalated behavior with calm and confidence
- Committed interest in the issues surrounding sexual exploitation, including complex trauma
- Strong sense of self identification, personal coping skills, emotion regulation and conflict resolution
- Technology skills: iPhone; email; basic computer skills, Microsoft Office, Google Drive
- Must have current driver's license, access to transportation, and a clean driving record
- Must align with the REST Statement of Faith and Cultural Values

Schedule: 40 hours/week. Hours may vary depending on needs.

Location: Based out of the REST Office, but must be able to meet clients throughout King County

Salary: \$19.00 - \$24.00/hr. DOE. 15 days of vacation per year; 8 paid holidays; \$4550 annual health care stipend; 403(b) retirement savings option