

WesWELL, the Office of Health Education Peer Health Advocate Team Leader

Position Description

The Peer Health Advocate (PHA) Team Leaders work closely with the Director of Health Education, other WesWELL student employees, and the team of volunteer PHAs to develop and deliver programs and partake in research related to health issues.

Successful candidates will serve as the primary team of supervisors for the volunteer PHA membership. They are expected to serve as leaders and role models in their efforts, and to serve as an extension of the professional staff of WesWELL (in particular) and the Davison Health Center (in general).

Their work will support WesWELL's mission. Theoretical foundations and principles of curriculum development and measurement and evaluation will be utilized.

Duties & Responsibilities

- Work collaboratively with the Director of Health Education to create a strategic plan for peer-led health education events and activities
- Meet weekly with the Director, other Team Leaders and other WesWELL student employees to maintain communication and our forward progress towards established goals
- Advise, train and oversee the work of the PHAs, including but not limited to:
 - planning and organizing initial and ongoing training sessions
 - develop teambuilding activities
 - leading weekly PHA meetings
 - seeking presenters for requested workshops
 - delegating tasks to workgroups and maintaining contact with workgroup leaders to ensure follow-through and completion
 - maintain incentive program for volunteers
- Seek out opportunities to work collaboratively with student organizations and other departments to create, publicize, and deliver health promotion programs or events
- Provide theory based educational incentives by:
 - Serving as a health information and referral resource
 - Developing programs and outreach for the campus community including underserved populations
 - Supporting the volunteers to serve in the same capacity
- Hold weekly office hours and assist in staffing the office
- Other duties as assigned and as determined as the position evolves

Qualifications & Skills

The ideal candidate will be interested in leading a group of peer volunteers in proactively addressing health issues relevant to college students. Topics may include, but are not limited to: alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; sexual and reproductive health;

sexual assault and partner abuse; nutrition, eating disorders, mental health, and body image; stress management, etc.

- Must be a full-time Wesleyan University student in good academic standing
- Must be a current and active Peer Health Advocate
- Must possess a strong interest in preventative health and a desire to affect change in student health behaviors through creative and effective health promotion activities
- Must be a role model for responsible and healthy lifestyle choices and enthusiastic about educating their peers on wellness issues
- Must possess excellent oral and written communication skills, and to be able to communicate effectively with their peers, University employees and possibly, community agencies
- Must be able to work as a team member and independently (“be a self-starter”)
- Must be able to organize and manage a variety of projects simultaneously
- Must possess positive work attitude and be dependable and responsible
- Must not be afraid to ask questions or say “I don’t know”
- Previous student leadership, peer education, event planning and/or health education-related experience preferred

Hours per Week: 5 - 10 hours/week; may be flexible outside usual department hours and vary somewhat throughout the semester.

Hourly Rate: \$8.00 and up (candidates do not need to be eligible for work-study)

Contact: Tanya Purdy, Director of Health Education
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Department Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

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