

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

Position Description

WesWELL, the Office of Health Education is seeking qualified students to apply for the position of Peer Health Advocate Team Leader. The Peer Health Advocate (PHA) Team Leaders work closely with the Director of Health Education, the Publicity Coordinator/Graphic Designer, and the team of volunteer PHAs to create a health promotion plan and to deliver educational events and activities on various health issues.

The Team Leader is a student leadership position. 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 of promoting good health of mind, body and spirit by helping members of Wesleyan students connect with resources and gain knowledge that will aid in the enhancement of their well-being, encourage self-discovery, and support their intellectual proficiency and academic success.

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, the other Team Leaders and the Publicity Coordinator/Graphic Designer to maintain communication and our forward progress towards established goals
- Build relationships with the volunteers to encourage their leadership development and group cohesiveness
- Oversee the work of the volunteer 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
 - developing and maintaining an 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
- Serve as a health information and referral resource; support 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, and body image; stress management, etc.

- Must be a full-time Wesleyan University student in good academic standing
- Must be a current and active volunteer 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

Application Procedure

All candidates are required to fill out an application, which can be found here:

www.wesleyan.edu/weswell/hiring/student_positions.html.

Completed applications should be emailed to Lisa Currie at lcurrie@wesleyan.edu by NOON on Monday, May 5, 2008.

Candidates who meet the qualifications for the position will be scheduled for an interview with Lisa Currie and the current PHA Team Leaders on Friday, May 9 from 10am to 1pm (or at another time, if the candidate is not available during those hours).

Hours per Week: 5 - 10 hours/week; may be flexible outside usual department hours and will vary throughout the semester depending on current programming activities

Hourly Rate: \$7.65/hour and up (Work-study eligibility preferred, but not required)

Contact: Lisa Currie, Director of Health Education
lcurrie@wesleyan.edu or 860.685.2466

Department Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

Revised 4.28.2008