



**Position:** Peer Specialist

**Position Summary:** The Lazarus Program is a specialized outreach initiative that engages, assesses, treats (medically and mentally) and secures permanent supportive housing placement for persons who are chronically homeless in Miami-Dade County. The Lazarus Program Peer Specialist is one of the points of contact for clients and is responsible for assisting and empowering clients regarding concerns they may have, by accompanying them to appointments, monitoring their progress on their goals, lending assistance to the team, and leading by example when it comes to coping strategies. Majority of the work, may require travel and being a support to clients on necessary appointments. A Lazarus Program Peer Specialist uses their own experience in order to guide and support clients and must be an energetic self-starter, passionate about helping homeless individuals, have excellent communication skills, be attentive to detail and relentless in driving outcomes.

The ideal candidate will be familiar and comfortable with homeless individuals and street culture and will demonstrate an ability to establish trusting, hopeful relationships with these individuals.

**Qualifications Required:**

- Ability to understand and practice the mission of Camillus House.
- Education: Peer Support Certification
- Language: Proficiency in oral and written English required; Spanish preferred and other languages a plus (i.e. Creole).
- Skills: Computer literacy required (Word, Excel, other data entry programs)
- Successful completion of Toxicology test and of Criminal Background Check.
- Successful completion of Level II screening.
- Valid FL Driver License with clean driving record.

**Qualifications Preferred:**

- Culturally sensitive to the social, psychological and healthcare needs of the vulnerable populations serviced.
- Strong organizational, interpersonal and communication skills in order to meet deadlines and handle multiple tasks.
- Demonstrates a high level of productivity while remaining calm and effective under pressure.
- A self-starter with demonstrated ability to work independently, as well as, with multidisciplinary teams and co-workers.
- Ability to maintain a high level of poise and professionalism in all circumstances.
- Ability to establish supportive, respectful, trusting relationships with persons with histories of homelessness, severe and persistent mental illnesses, trauma, and co-occurring substance use disorders.
- Strong commitment to the right and ability of each person with a severe and persistent mental illness to live in normal community residences, work in market jobs; and have access to helpful, adequate, competent and continuous support and services.

**Responsibilities:**

- Commitment to the Values and Mission of the Brothers of St. John of God as witnessed through Camillus House and Health in serving the needs of the underserved populations.

**Hospitality:** Create an environment where people can feel welcomed, comfortable, understood, esteemed and loved.

**Respect:** Recognize the richness of God's gifts and His presence in every person regardless of age, situation in life, culture or religion.

**Spirituality:** Nurture a brighter, happier and richer life in time of suffering and struggle; empowering confidence in living with joy.

**Quality:** Work toward creating centers of excellence; fostering continuous improvement.

**Healing:** Respond to the need of the whole person – body, mind and spirit; energizing new hope.

**Responsibility:** Encourage cooperation as a way of promoting standards of competency, efficiency and accountability as we carry out our duties in the Mission.

- Conduct daily street outreach.
- Provide respectful engagement to homeless adults with serious psychiatric disabilities and co-occurring substance use disorders.
- Work with other Lazarus Project partners to develop strategies that help encourage homeless individuals to take steps leading to housing.
- Assist case managers by providing client with support, guidance and encouragement on his/her path to housing.
- Document client engagement through case notes according to established policies and procedure.
- Participate in staff organizational meetings and treatment planning review meetings.
- Accompany/Drive clients to appointments that will allow them to apply for benefits (SSI, Veterans pensions, etc.) obtain their documents (ID, birth certificate, social security cards), for employment options, and housing opportunities.
- Assist clients with money-management skills (e.g., budgeting and bill paying).
- Assist clients with what is needed when they transition to housing.
- Other Duties as assigned.

**Camillus House is an Equal Opportunity Employer**