



Job Posting Updated April 10, 2017

## Community Support Specialist, Beaverton OR

Bridge Meadows is seeking to employ a Community Support Specialist (CSS) for our new Beaverton site (13745 SW Allen Blvd.) which is currently under construction. Bridge Meadows is a unique housing community that brings together youth, parents and older adults (elders) for the purpose of promoting permanency for foster youth and meaning and purpose for elders. The CSS is the community facilitator and integrator, who plans, coordinates, and implements services that support intentional, intergenerational living across the life span of our diverse residents. The foundation of our intergenerational model relies on transformation through relationships. The Community Support Specialist must have a graduate degree (Master of Social Work preferred), and clinical experience with an understanding of trauma, mental health issues and relationship building related to foster, pre-adoptive families and older adults. This is a 40 hour/week, full-time salaried position, with occasional weekend projects/activities. Experience addressing issues faced by older adults is preferred. The position will remain open until filled.

### Key Responsibilities Include:

1. Utilize clinical skills to facilitate and support the strengthening of community members with psychosocial/educational activities that include:
  - Individual support of children, parents, and elders
  - Facilitation of support groups, community meetings, health and well-being activities, educational workshops and social/recreation activities for families and older adults
2. Utilize Bridge Meadows data management system to track program performance and outcomes progress. Provide written and verbal updates to staff and residents on progress and challenges
3. Guide, advise, train and/or facilitate residents in problem solving
4. Collaborate and supervise student interns
5. Collaborate with site's property management in addressing and intervening resident issues

Launched in 2011 in North Portland, Bridge Meadows builds and sustains intergenerational neighborhoods for youth formerly in foster care, adoptive parents, and elders. In our communities, former foster youth move from instability to permanent families and homes, adoptive parents receive support and guidance, and elders find meaning and purpose as they become valued mentors, honorary grandparents and friends. By leveraging the power of intergenerational place, permanence and shared social purpose, Bridge Meadows' residents transform individual challenges into collective strength and create a whole that is far greater than the sum of its parts.

The successful candidate will receive a competitive salary based on experience and an excellent benefits package including holiday, vacation, health/dental and retirement coverage. Attached is a detailed job description.

### How to Apply:

To apply, email your resume and a cover letter, addressing attributes listed in the job description and salary requirements to Renee Moseley, Associate Director at [rmoseley@bridgemeadows.org](mailto:rmoseley@bridgemeadows.org). Please state Community Support Specialist in the subject line. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.



## Community Support Specialist Job Description

**Job Title:** Community Support Specialist

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**Exempt:** Yes

**Status:** Full Time

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### **Description of Project:**

Bridge Meadows is an intentional intergenerational community with the social purpose of providing place, permanence, and purpose for children from the foster care system, their adoptive parents, and elders (adults 55 and older). Parents, youth and elders receive professional and natural support from staff, collaborating agencies, and one another moving them toward the achievement of success in academics, health and well-being, and housing stability.

### **Summary:**

The Community Support Specialist is primarily responsible for planning, coordinating, and implementing resident services (outlined below) that support intentional, intergenerational living and the mission of Bridge Meadows. The position will assist with the coordination of program partners, community stakeholders (such as schools, DHS and senior service providers) and the delivery of onsite services. Given the foundation of our intergenerational model relies on transformation through relationships and the community supporting one another, with a population that has experienced trauma, the Community Support Specialist must have a graduate degree (Master of Social Work preferred) and clinical experience in understanding trauma, mental health issues and relationship building.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Facilitate and support the strengthening of community members with psychosocial/educational activities that include:
  - Individual support of children, parents, and elders
  - Facilitation of support groups, community meetings, health and well-being activities, educational workshops and social/recreation activities across the life span of residents
  - Case Management
2. Work directly with community members to support engagement
3. Utilize Bridge Meadows data management system to track residents' progress, community participation and gaps in program services. Provide written and verbal updates to staff and residents on progress and challenges
4. Participate in weekly team meetings with site staff and bi-weekly meetings with Associate Director, to identify community successes, challenges, and opportunities for growth
5. Utilize clinical supervision to problem solve resident issues and identify areas of professional growth
6. Actively participate with Bridge Meadows team on projects and organizational activities
7. Communicate information, verbally and in writing in a clear and documented manner to ensure strong relations with partner agencies
8. Provide referrals to service providers and partners and when needed, serve as liaison between residents and providers/partners to monitor appropriateness of service delivery
9. Collaborate with site's property management in addressing and intervening resident issues and crises.
10. Available to residents or site staff in the event of community emergencies

11. When appropriate, establish and maintain linkages between residents, family members, and other community agencies to address needs or issues
12. Guide, advise, train and/or facilitate residents in problem solving
13. Collaborate and supervise student interns
14. Additional responsibilities assigned as needed

**Qualifications:**

**Knowledge of:**

- Clinical understanding of human behavior, child development and trauma, systems and group dynamics, trauma and intervention techniques
- Challenges of families involved in the child welfare system and social supports required
- The aging process
- Housing issues and resources for families and seniors
- Mental health and drug and alcohol issues
- Assessment and diagnostic skills
- Microsoft Office and general office management

**Ability to:**

- Exemplify traits that reflect the agency's culture and values
- Use creativity, critical thinking and empathy to expand and evolve intergenerational living
- Coordinate day-to-day community activities, and function, in collaboration with the property manager community partners and Bridge Meadows team as necessary
- To cooperate as a member of an interdisciplinary treatment team
- Establish clear and appropriate boundaries in relationships with staff and residents and the handling of confidential and sensitive information
- Initiate and work independently, which includes occasional weekends and evenings
- Gain an understanding of Fair Housing Laws

**Education:** Master's degree in counseling, social work, psychology or a related field or equivalent experience.

**Certificates, Licenses, Registrations:** Maintain a driving record acceptable by the agency and a current driver's license for state of residence, when authorized to use own vehicle for agency business, employee must maintain personal insurance.

**Experience:** Two years' practical experience in direct client care and/or counseling.