

Community Support Specialist II Beaverton, OR

Bridge Meadows is seeking to fill a full-time Community Support Specialist position for our Beaverton, OR site. We're looking for a seasoned clinician who is excited about using their skills in a non-traditional setting in support of building a resilient and caring community. The ideal candidate thrives in working with people across the lifespan, from toddlers to 90-year-olds.

Who We Are:

Bridge Meadows, launched in 2011, builds purposeful communities where children, families, and elders flourish together. Our **intentional intergenerational communities** help children who have experienced the foster care system heal from trauma by providing foster/pre-adoptive families with stable, affordable housing, and therapeutic services. Parents find much-needed support and camaraderie, and elders find meaning and purpose by actively engaging with neighbors. By weaving together trauma-informed services and a caring network of community members, families, and elders move from the stress of instability to the possibility of thriving in a safe environment.

We're not your typical social service organization. We have an entrepreneurial spirit, grounded in the belief that individuals and communities transform when we're connected, feel that we belong, and strive for meaning and purpose. We're so passionate about intentional, intergenerational living, Bridge Meadows is expanding regionally and nationally.

Our Values:

- **Flourish**—Everyone deserves the opportunity to move beyond a state of survival to a state of flourishing. Individuals and communities flourish when surrounded by supportive relationships and opportunities to create meaning and purpose.
- **Intention**—Every facet of our organization is designed with our social purpose and the community in mind. This includes what we do, how we act, and how we build our communities and spaces.
- **Connection**—Connection enhances our ability to cope with life's difficulties, enriching our lives and improving our well-being and sense of belonging.

Equity Commitment:

Bridge Meadows is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment and is proud to be an equal-opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, or veteran status.

About this Role:

Bridge Meadows is seeking an experienced social worker (or related field with equivalent experience) who is passionate about working with individuals across the lifespan. The ideal candidate will hold the role of Community Support Specialist (CSS). The foundation of our intergenerational model relies on transformation through relationships. The CSS is integral as the community facilitator and integrator, to support the community in flourishing. The successful candidate must have experience in addressing family trauma, and mental health needs of individuals across the life span and have familiarity with issues of aging and of foster and adoptive families. The candidate must also have experience in group work, whether through the implementation of therapeutic groups, family work, and/or community building. *Diverse, bicultural, and bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply.*

The multi-faceted CSS role supports community members through both one-on-one work, group work, and case management. The CSS provides counseling to elders and families focusing on building relationships with one another and addressing barriers to those relationships; assists community members in accessing resources; collaborates with community partners in enhancing community life. We're looking for candidates who think and work from a sound clinical foundation and desire the opportunity to create and collaborate in designing community programming.

Key Responsibilities include:

- 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 experiences
 - Assist with accessing resources in support of community members
- Discern when to guide, advise, train and/or facilitate community members in problem-solving
- Collaborate with the site's property management in supporting community members
- Establish and maintain relationships with community partners

We're excited about you joining the Bridge Meadows team because...

- You have 5-7 years of social work experience (or related field with equivalent experience) with a committed willingness to work with youth, parents, and older adults.
- You're excited to utilize your mental health skills in a creative and dynamic environment.
- You're energetic and enthusiastic and able to formulate and implement creative strategies for community engagement and community building.
- You know how to self-initiate, work independently, and enjoy that every day is different.
- You're comfortable using Zoom and other remote technologies to facilitate connection and meetings.
- You can work with large groups as well as individuals.
- You have a strong sense of personal/professional ethics and boundaries and can apply them in a community setting.
- You embrace learning about issues that impact people across the lifespan.

- You are excited to collaborate across the organization and with your team members.
- You exemplify traits that reflect the agency's values.

Additional information

This is a 40-hour/week, full-time position with a salary range of \$55k-60K, annually. The successful candidate will receive an excellent benefits package which includes holiday, paid time off, health/dental, and retirement coverage. The timeframe for the start of the position is mid-February 2024.

Attached is a detailed job description.

To apply, email your resume and a cover letter, addressing the attributes listed as well as salary requirements to Shawna Hartung, Community Program Manager, at shartung@bridgemeadows.org. Please note Community Support Specialist - Redmond in the subject line. ***Due to scheduling and time constraints, we can only follow up with candidates that meet the needs of the position.*** Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Community Support Specialist Job Description

Job Title: Community Support Specialist II

Exempt: Yes

Status: Full-Time

Organization Description

Bridge Meadows is an intentional intergenerational community with the social purpose of providing permanence for children who've experienced the foster care system, supporting their parents to thrive, and providing meaning and purpose for older adults (elders). 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:

Community Support Specialist II is primarily responsible for planning, coordinating, and implementing community member services and programs (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 health providers), and the delivery of onsite services. Given the foundation of the intergenerational model relies on the community supporting one another, the Community Support Specialist must have clinical experience in understanding trauma, and mental health issues and addressing relationship building. *Diverse, bicultural, and bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply.*

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
 - Case Management
2. In collaboration with community members, design and implement programs that meet collectively identified needs
3. Maintain standards of communication and interactions that uphold the intended community culture and foster community building
4. Work directly with community members to support engagement
5. Utilize the Bridge Meadows data management system to track community members' progress, community participation, and gaps in program services. Provide written and verbal updates to staff and residents on progress and challenges
6. Participate in weekly team meetings with site staff and bi-weekly meetings with Associate Director, to identify community successes, challenges, and growth opportunities.
7. Utilize clinical supervision to problem-solve community member issues and identify areas of professional growth
8. Actively participate with the Bridge Meadows team on projects and organizational activities
9. Communicate information in a clear and documented manner to ensure strong relations with partner agencies.

10. Provide referrals to service providers and partners and when needed, serve as liaison between community members and providers/partners to monitor appropriateness of service delivery.
11. Collaborate with the site's property management in addressing and intervening in community member issues and crises.
12. Available to community members in the event of community emergencies
13. When appropriate, establish and maintain linkages between community members, family members, and other community agencies to address needs or issues
14. Guide, advise, train and/or facilitate community members in problem-solving and conflict resolution
15. Collaborate and supervise student interns
16. Additional responsibilities assigned as needed

Qualifications:**Knowledge of:**

- Clinical understanding of mental health issues, human behavior, child development, older adult issues, trauma, systems and group dynamics
- Challenges of families involved in the child welfare system and social support required
- The aging process
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion, and offering programs in a culturally responsive manner
- Housing issues and resources for families and older adults
- 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, in collaboration with the property manager, community partners, and Bridge Meadows team as necessary
- Build collaboration and a sense of agency among community members
- 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
- 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 use own vehicle for agency business; employee must maintain personal insurance.

Experience: Minimum of five years of practical experience in direct client care and/or counseling.