

Domestic Violence Community Advocate

REACH Beyond Domestic Violence is a non-profit organization providing safety and support to survivors of abuse while engaging communities to promote healthy relationships and prevent domestic violence. Our programs include 24-hour hotline services, emergency shelter, support groups, legal advocacy, specialized children's services, community-based survivor advocacy programs and community education and training.

We are seeking to hire a Community Advocate to join our team. The ideal candidate is someone who is passionate about supporting survivors, is flexible and interested in learning, and believes in doing individual work from a place of unconditional positive regard for the person you are working with, including a general belief in a survivor's abilities and strengths, as well as a conviction that their choices make sense.

At REACH, we believe that the way we do our work matters. The respectful, equitable relationships we work for in the world have to start with us. We do this work because we believe change is possible. We work with communities and individuals to change social norms and systems of oppression in order to prevent and ultimately end domestic violence.

Job Description

Community Advocates work in our main office in Waltham with survivors from the Metro West Boston community. In addition to providing case management and emotional support to survivors, the advocate will co-facilitate support groups, assist with children's services, participate in supervision and training for volunteers, conduct outreach to community resources, perform regular reporting, and ensure communication with each other and with the agency as a whole. This position reports to the Director of Advocacy.

Direct Service Responsibilities:

- Serve as advocate for community members, including advocacy work around issues such as housing, benefits, employment, childcare, medical and dental care, education, legal matters, immigration, mental health and substance abuse
- Work with other REACH staff to address survivors' needs and concerns
- Assist survivors with contacting community resources, setting up appointments, and transportation to and from appointments
- Attend any meetings or appointments that will assist in providing quality advocacy to survivors
- Work with the Child and Adolescent Therapist to address children's needs, including school registration, daycare, after school programs, and summer camps
- Co-facilitate assigned support groups

Systems Advocacy Responsibilities:

- Develop and maintain relationships with housing authorities, DTA and DCF offices, employment agencies, medical, immigration, legal, substance abuse and other community resources
- Track changes in availability and eligibility requirements for housing subsidies, welfare, and other benefits
- Inform other programs and institutions on domestic violence and our programs. Assist representatives in making information available to all members of their organization/institution

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Administrative/Supervisory Responsibilities:

- Maintain survivors' records including service delivery records, advocacy plans, and other documentation in accordance with confidentiality guidelines
- Maintain records of services provided in accordance with confidentiality guidelines
- Participate in volunteer training and supervision
- Other duties as assigned by their supervisor

Work Schedule

This is a salaried non-exempt position on a fluctuating workweek. Advocates work 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday. Some evening availability is required.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent human services experience
- Model and uphold appropriate boundaries at work with survivors
- Knowledge of Greater Boston area and resources
- Candidate must have a car and valid driver's license and be willing to transport survivors

Salary Range and Benefits

Mid \$40K. Comprehensive benefits package includes health and dental coverage, retirement plan, and generous paid time off. REACH provides 25 hours of DV subject area training to all staff and volunteers, as well as ongoing weekly individual and group supervision, peer-to-peer mentoring, and opportunities for all staff to participate in in-house and outside education and trainings throughout the year.

To apply, please send cover letter and resume to Maria Pizzimenti, Director of Advocacy at jobs@reachma.org.

REACH is an equal opportunity employer and provides an inclusive work environment.