

# Harm Reduction

## Care Linkage Coordinator

### (Full-Time)



**Who We Are:** The Aliveness Project is a community center for people living with HIV. We serve around 2,000 folks annually, the majority of whom are low-income. The mission of the Aliveness Project is to link people living with HIV to resources for leading healthy, self-directed lives. Our primary objectives are to ensure that our members have access to:

- Basic needs: We provide meals, a food shelf, and medical nutrition therapy while our Case Management team helps provide access to healthcare and housing.
- Community: Our community center model provides a safe and supportive place for members to gather and build community.
- Prevention: We provide targeted outreach to communities disproportionately affected by HIV through education, awareness, and strategies for eliminating stigma.

Aliveness Project is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to building and maintaining a diverse staff that is representative of the communities we serve and live in. People of color, LGBTQ-identified individuals, and people from the local community are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### **Job Description:**

As a Care Linkage Coordinator at The Aliveness Project, you will play a vital role in promoting the health, safety, and dignity of individuals within our community who are impacted by drug use and homelessness, especially those from Native and Indigenous communities.

#### **Your main responsibilities will include:**

- Conducting outreach efforts to engage with individuals who use drugs, building trusting relationships, and providing information about harm reduction strategies.
- Building partnerships with community groups and other agencies, especially those serving Native American communities. Assisting in identifying locations for mobile harm reduction events through community partnerships.
- Distributing sterile injection equipment and safer smoking supplies, and collecting used needles to prevent the spread of infections.
- Educating clients on safer drug use practices, overdose prevention, and connecting them to available resources for MOUD, SUD treatment, and other support services.
- Providing non-judgmental support and referrals to medical care, housing, mental health services, and other essential resources.

- Facilitating trainings, educational groups, and support groups for people impacted by drug use or in treatment for substance use disorder.
- Assisting participants with initial contact and transportation to appointments for MOUD, SUD treatment, and other support services.
- Documenting client interactions and maintaining accurate records of services provided. Help support routine maintenance of harm reduction program including data entry, inventory, and supplies ordering.
- Operating our mobile syringe service program, including driving to & from outreach events.
- Collaborating with a diverse team of healthcare professionals, social workers, and volunteers to ensure comprehensive care for our clients.
- Participating in training and professional development opportunities to enhance your harm reduction and outreach skills.
- Assist the Outreach and Prevention team with other HIV prevention duties as necessary, including providing onsite and offsite rapid HIV testing, risk reduction counseling, PrEP referrals, and HIV care linkage for those newly diagnosed or found out of care.
- Participate in staff meetings, regular supervision and organization wide efforts as requested.

This is a full-time (40hr/week) position that will typically require being in person at The Aliveness Project during open hours (M-F 9-4). Flexibility to work occasional evening or weekend hours for events is required.

**Skills and Experience Required:**

- Previous experience in Harm Reduction, outreach, and/or social services related to HIV/AIDS, people who use drugs, and/or Native American communities.
- Previous professional or lived experience working with people who use injection drugs and/or unsheltered folks.
- Comfort working around drug paraphernalia.
- Strong passion for and commitment to harm reduction, social justice, and serving vulnerable populations.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to connect with individuals from diverse backgrounds who are often stigmatized.
- Understanding of harm reduction principles and knowledge of safe injection practices.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team, with strong organizational and time management skills.
- Non-judgmental attitude and the ability to build rapport and trust with marginalized individuals.
- Sensitivity to the needs of individuals facing homelessness, substance use, mental health challenges, and HIV-related issues.
- Valid driver's license
- Experience using computer systems (Excel, Microsoft Word, Outlook), internet navigation and email.
- Strong professional boundaries with program participants.

**Preferred, But Not Required:**

- Professional or lived experience with opioid use and/or treatment for opioid use disorder.
- Professional or lived experience working with communities most served by our program, including Black communities, Native and Indigenous communities, and queer communities.
- Familiarity with local resources and services available to unhoused individuals and people who use drugs.
- Experience working in a nonprofit or community-based organization.

At The Aliveness Project, we value diversity and strive to create an inclusive and equitable workplace. We encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds, including those with lived experience of homelessness, substance use, and HIV.

Join us in making a positive impact on the lives of those we serve. Your compassion and commitment can make a difference.

**Compensation:** \$40,000–\$46,000 for 40 hours per week with competitive benefits including health insurance, paid holidays, PTO and floating holidays.

**How to Apply:** If you are passionate about harm reduction, dedicated to supporting unhoused individuals, and excited to be part of a dynamic team at The Aliveness Project, we encourage you to apply. Send your resume and cover letter in a single Word or PDF document to [ddegnan@kariskinnovation.com](mailto:ddegnan@kariskinnovation.com).