

Occupational Therapist / Training Day Manager

Job at U-turn Homeless Ministries – in Cape Town, Western Cape

Job Description

Background U-turn is a thriving non-profit that exist to give homeless people the skills to overcome homelessness. Founded in 1997, we believe in life after homelessness. We believe that every homeless individual should have access to an effective pathway that addresses their physical, spiritual, and emotional needs so they can leave the streets and become a long-term productive member of society. To help homeless people overcome homelessness we operate a phased approach that includes rehabilitation from substance abuse, counselling, life-skills training, and work placement in one of our social enterprises. This allows candidates to test and apply the training they've received. In the process, the programme inculcates a healthy work ethic, furnish modern job skills, and give 18-24 months of real work experience so that individuals can graduate and be gainfully employed in the modern South African economy. The programme is yielding wonderful results. Our candidates typically graduate into open market employment and show an 80% long term success rate! We are actively working to expand the programme to more locations in Cape Town and across South Africa.

The Position

An Occupational Therapist registered **with the HPCSA is needed from February 2022** to head up the Southern Suburbs Training Day Team as part of the Work-readiness programme. This is a full-time position for which the candidate would need an Occupational therapy degree and be registered with the HPCSA. The Work-readiness department forms part of the Life Change Journey and is tasked with providing work-based rehabilitation and skills development training that prepares clients for graduation into the open labour marker and reintegration into community. One day a week, each client attends a training day where they access group therapy, counselling, and input using a specially designed curriculum. This cycle of learning and then application follows a graded approach and continues for as long as needed. It takes an average of 18 months. Case-managers coordinate the entire intervention programme for the clients and work in close-collaboration with the worksite managers.

Key Areas of Responsibility

- Conduct group and or individual assessments as part of the intake process
- Manage the Training Day program in collaboration with other Units and manage the Training Day Team for the Unit
- Manage a case load of up to 8 clients per week
 - o Assessment of needs within relevant stage of the Life Change Programme and setting appropriate goals
 - o Crisis intervention, e.g. resolving conflict.
- Provide case management and support for each client. This includes intervention planning and implementation, monitoring and follow-up; and re-assessment; internal referrals to multidisciplinary team and external referrals to external service providers/healthcare professionals where necessary
- As and when needed assess referred clients for specific OT interventions and create home-program and follow up sessions.
- Complete required data capturing, including service instances, client notes and progress reports
- Contribute to programme development

Essential Skills

- Occupational Therapist registered with the HPCSA
- Experience working in the addiction field · Managing Experience
- Driver's licence
- Strong administrative skills
- Active listening
- A resourceful individual that is not easily flustered
- A collaborative team player – concerned with the team success as well as individual performance
- Emotionally mature individual Attitude
- Willingness to assist and help where necessary
- Willingness to learn and grow personally
- A problem solver who is open to change and innovation
- Must be able to take initiative
- An enthusiastic person who is devoted to South Africa and wants to use his or her clinical skills and experience to make a meaningful difference

Next Steps: Candidates interested in this position must submit a letter of motivation and CV to recruitment@homeless.org.za.

The letter of motivation should be approximately 1 page in length and include information on why you would like to work at U-turn and how you fulfil the required knowledge and skills outlined above. Applications without a letter of motivation will NOT be considered.

Contract length: 12 months