

Position Announcement: Warm Line Dad Specialist - PT Contract Position

About the Organization

<u>Perinatal Support Washington</u> (PS-WA) supports the emotional wellbeing of people preconception through postpartum (up to 2 years) who are at risk or currently experiencing mental health needs. As a statewide nonprofit dedicated to perinatal mental health, we believe all parents should receive appropriate, timely, and culturally relevant care.

Our direct service programs are designed to provide specialized perinatal mental health services so that no parent goes without the mental health support they deserve. We offer short term and long term peer support, clinical therapy, support groups, and more. PS-WA is committed to making our care system stronger; we have a robust training and consultation program for professionals to fill the gaps in care for parents and help re-envision what the perinatal mental health field could be. (Learn more about our organizational priorities by viewing our 2025 Strategic Plan and Theory of Change.)

Perinatal Support Washington is a parent-friendly, mental health friendly workplace.

About the Position

The <u>Parent Support Warm Line</u> is hiring a part-time Dad Specialist to support dads and partners directly who reach out for support. This is an exciting and unique position for an individual who is passionate about peer support and breaking the stigma and barriers dads face in the perinatal period. Come and be a part of PS-WA and help to increase access to care and emotional wellbeing for dads in the perinatal period.

We are looking to add someone to the team who is excited to be a part of our mission and growth! We value lived and learned experience as much as formal training and education. If you see yourself in this role, we strongly encourage you to apply. If you do not have the preferred experience or skills, please apply. We offer professional development and on the job learning and support.

This is a part-time contract position and will involve 5-15 hours of work a month. Primary responsibilities will be to answer any Warm Line inquiries where a parent

requests to speak with a dad or partner. Inquiries come into the Warm Line 7 days a week and this position will have 24 hours to respond to those requests.

Warm Line Specialists work with pregnant and parenting families who are struggling, at-risk for or are experiencing mental health challenges related to childbearing. Some examples could include anxiety, sadness or grief around unexpected parenting/birth outcomes, depression, sleeplessness, scary or intrusive thoughts. Specialists are not mental health providers but are providing peer services.

While working with a parent, you will be providing emotional support, wellness planning and researching referrals, reaching out to providers, and addressing resource navigation to address barriers and navigate formal mental health care or other services as needed. The Warm Line provides support beyond the initial call. You could assist a parent for 1 week or up to about 3 months at a time. Warm Line Specialists spend 65% of their time providing direct service and about 35% of their time documenting, resourcing, and consulting about their participants and attending trainings.

Core Functions

Direct Service. Resource & Referrals

- Provide timely, appropriate, and culturally relevant support to individuals who
 contact the Warm Line seeking to talk with a dad, including providing
 perinatal mental health support, psychoeducation, wellness planning,
 addressing barriers, resources, referrals, and more
- Manage support and referrals for the Warm Line, including phone, email, and text support
- Provide parents with information about perinatal mental health and the full range of treatment options including formal and informal mental health supports
- Support parents in navigating the formal mental health system by providing information and support about how to access care, what to expect, and supporting parents as they engage with treatment providers
- Follow up on inquiries, within 24 hours of request, by contacting parent via requested method (phone, text, email), including identifying and providing resources/referrals information in a timely manner
- Manage caseload of callers receiving extended peer support through the Warm Line

Administrative Tasks

- Update and manage resources and referral sources as they pertain to dads, including our Dads Referral and Resource Guide
- Complete call reports and notes in client database in a timely manner
- Maintain administrative tasks associated with supporting parents including locating and making appropriate referrals

Ideal Candidates

This is a unique opportunity to join a team providing services as peers to dads. As such, ideal candidates will be a parent who has personal experience with perinatal mental health concerns such as depression, anxiety, birth trauma, perinatal loss, etc. - and/or has supported their partner through their partner's personal experience. Additionally, they are a warm, enthusiastic, collaborative individual who enjoys supporting parents, with a strong orientation to detail and ability to work independently with direction.

Black, Indignous and people of color from under-represented communities, and people with diverse life experiences are **encouraged** to apply.

Minimum Requirements

- Attend staff meeting in Seattle (via video conference)
- Use of a personal phone (with phone.com app provided) and computer
- Ability to telecommute
- Some evening and weekend availability in order to connect with parents
- Ability to be "on call" and respond to initial parent inquiries within 24 hours
- Strong commitment to racial equity and delivering services with a intersectional/reproductive justice lens
- Attend PS-WA training on perinatal mental health
 Authentic experience and ability to provide peer support to dads

Desired Requirements

- Passion for and commitment to the mission of Perinatal Support Washington and supporting parents
- Comfortable with discussing mental health and knowledgeable about the perinatal period
- Experience working with people during the reproductive/perinatal period
- One year or more of experience in a peer mentorship, volunteer, or similar capacity, ideally with families
- Ability to work independently with little supervision
- Experience using databases to input information

- Strong communication, writing skills, and strong attention to detail
- Aptitude for solving problems with creativity and resourcefulness
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office, Google Apps, phone and text messaging

Compensation and Benefits

Perinatal Support Washington provides ample opportunity for professional growth and training in perinatal mental health. The wage for this contract position is \$28.56 per hour.

Work Location

PS-WA does not currently have an administrative office. Work is done remotely. This position is open to candidates located in Washington state.

Application Instructions

To apply please send your resume and answers to the following questions to victoria.cherniak@perinatalsupport.org with "Warm Line Dad Specialist" in the subject line.

Please share your thoughts on the following questions in your application:

- Tell us why you want to work at Perinatal Support Washington. What is it about our mission that speaks to you?
- Tell us how you are a good fit for this position and how your experience would allow you to provide support to dads and partners reaching out to the Warm Line.

Interviews will begin mid July. Applications received before July 18th will be prioritized. We expect this position will start late August.

Perinatal Support Washington is an Equal Opportunity Employer. People of color, of any sexual orientation or gender identity, from under-represented communities, and people with diverse life experiences are **encouraged** to apply.