

Position Title:

Registered Nurse for Street Health Outreach and Wellness/Primary Care Safety Net Clinic(s)



General Description

NYC Health + Hospitals Street Health Outreach and Wellness (SHOW) program utilizes mobile units to provide health screenings, vaccinations, wound care, basic material necessities such as socks and bottled water, behavioral health and social service referral supports, and harm reduction services to New Yorkers who are unsheltered. A further goal of the program is to connect patients to NYC Health + Hospitals facility-based clinics, where they can receive ongoing medical care and support services. Among those are the Primary Care Safety Net Clinics, which specialize in caring for patients with experiences of homelessness and provide comprehensive medical care, social support, addiction treatment, and care coordination for those dealing with multiple health issues and homelessness.

Purpose of the Position

We are seeking energetic and collaborative nurses who are passionate about delivering comprehensive primary care to patients with complex social, medical, and behavioral health needs, in particular to those with experiences of homelessness. In this position you will join a multidisciplinary and dynamic team who is committed to delivering patient-centered care and improving care models to better address the needs of patients with complex needs. As part of this position the time allocated for direct patient care may be shared between the street medicine program, Street Health Outreach and Wellness (SHOW), and the Primary Care Safety Net (PCSN) practice, a facility-based outpatient comprehensive care program for people experiencing homelessness.

Summary of Duties and Responsibilities

- + Report to the assigned supervisor
- + This position may be partially based at facility-based Primary Care Safety Net Clinic and partially based out of mobile clinics as part of the Street Health Outreach and Wellness program.
- + While staffing the mobile clinic, canvasses neighborhood surrounding the van to engage with patients experiencing homelessness.
- + Offers limited medical services while encouraging patients to visit van or clinic for further evaluation and services.
- + Assess patients based on interviews, chart reviews, and/or referrals
- + Educate and teach patients based on diagnosis and need
- + Educates patients about harm reduction strategies (Narcan administration, Fentanyl test strip use, safer injection tips)
- + Initiates appropriate nursing interventions based upon assessment and/or clinical guidance, which may include:
 - o Instructing patients and/or family members regarding treatment, medication, diagnostic procedures, follow-up appointments
 - o Observing and identifying underlying/contributing factors, especially socio-economic, cultural, physical and language barriers
- + Assist in obtaining and maintaining an accurate list of home medications and ensuring patients' understanding of those prescriptions
- + Coordinates response to medical and psychiatric emergencies.

- + Schedules appointments for nurse follow-up visits (e.g., wound care, medication education) and assists with accessing specialty services as appropriate
- + Triage patients who present without appointment
- + Perform vital sign checks, EKGs, and collects blood specimens when needed.
- + Documents all observations, evaluations and interventions in the indicated forms or electronic medical records system.
- + Participates in preventive health measures, including administration of vaccines.
- + Demonstrate proficiency in the administration of nebulizer and/or metered dose inhalation therapy
- + Use the principles of harm reduction and a patient centered approach to deliver care
- + Exhibits sensitivity to the needs of a culturally and linguistically diverse patient population
- + Works in collaboration with other members of the team to deliver compassionate, patient-centered care.
- + Participates in monthly care coordination meetings, staff meetings, and trainings
- + Provide outreach to clients in different settings (e.g., homeless shelters, street) when necessary.

Qualifications

- + RN License
- + A four-year high school diploma or educational equivalent
- + Lived experience or prior work in healthcare settings caring for people with experiences of homelessness, mental illness (including substance use disorders) or justice involvement strongly preferred. If there is no prior substantial experience, candidate should possess a strong desire to learn and care for this population
- + Wound care experience preferred
- + Experience with naloxone (Narcan) administration and patient education desired
- + Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- + Exhibits sensitivity to the needs of a culturally and linguistically diverse patient population
- + Bilingual in English and Spanish (or another language) preferred