Youth Engagement Opportunity: Substance Use Project Advisory Committee!

Are you a youth with lived and/or living experience with substance use? Are you a Peer Support Worker who supports folks with lived and living experience using substances? We want to hear from you!

What is this opportunity all about?

This Health Canada funded project is focused on Substance Use and Addictions Programs. This project needs an Advisory Committee of folks who identify as having lived and living experience of using substances and Peer Support Workers who support folks with lived and living experience to inform every part of what we are doing. **Our hope is for this entire project to be informed by youth, as it should be!**

- Foundry applied for this project in partnership with YWHO from Ontario! The project will involve working with youth at local Foundry centres, Foundry central office and work that is happening in Ontario with the same focus.
- We will be conducting focus groups with youth with lived and living experience using substances and with Peer Support Workers from Foundry centres.
- We want to know what is working for youth when it comes to accessing services and how we can improve. We also want to know what Peer Support Workers feel they need more training on. This information will be added to Foundry's existing Youth Peer Support Training curriculum.
- The project is also focusing on the creation of materials that will inform Foundry centre staff, families and young people about what we heard through the focus groups. We hope to also be able to influence policy with what we learn!

What are the expectations?

This opportunity will begin with bi-weekly Advisory Committee meeting over the phone and online during the week of May 1st, 2020. This opportunity will include bi-weekly meetings of 2 hours per meeting, with 2 hours of outside meeting time until September 2020 for Phase One of the project. This is a total of 20 hours.

Additionally, this project is funded until February 2024! Which means there will be future opportunities to remain a part of the Advisory Committee and work towards the development of materials, curriculum content, and policy recommendations in future phases. This opportunity is flexible and can involve more hours, if you are interested! We are excited to share these additional engagement opportunities with Advisory Committee members.

What kind of training and support is involved?

- You will work closely with the Project Lead, Research Coordinator and the Research Manager based out of Foundry Central Office in Vancouver.
- There is no training required for youth interested in being a part of the Project Advisory Committee. We are grateful for you to just show up as yourselves and contribute in whatever way feels comfortable to you. We are here to provide support on how to connect with us for phone meetings and online meetings. We are also here to check-in with you and to make time to meet with you outside of bi-weekly meetings if that would be helpful!





Foundry values your time.

This opportunity will be offered an honorarium of \$25 per hour. This honorarium will be provided through Foundry central office. If you have more questions about this, please see the contact information about the bottom of this document. We will ask you to complete and submit a time-keeping sheet as part of the payment process.

Who should you talk to if you are interested in this opportunity?

If you think this opportunity is a good fit for you, or if you have any questions, please feel free to email, text or call Sarah Irving for more information by **May 1**st:

Sarah Irving, Project Lead – Foundry central office **Email:** <u>sirving@foundrybc.ca</u> **Cell:** 778-928-8024

We look forward to hearing from you!



