



August 2014

## **Position Opening: HIV/End-of-Life Care Practitioner**

*“In serving others you are healed. Service is more than doing for another. In being with, doing with and doing for others, you experience the deep unity that you share with others. The boundaries and barriers between self and other dissolve and you feel connected and whole.”*

--Ellen Birx

Joseph's House seeks a seasoned health care practitioner to care for residents with advanced HIV disease and terminal cancer.

Applications from registered nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants and physicians will be considered. Previous HIV and palliative/hospice experience preferred; experience in psychiatric care, substance abuse and recovery, and/or care of the homeless also beneficial.

### **About Joseph's House**

Joseph's House offers a welcoming community and comprehensive nursing and support services for homeless and unstably housed men, women and transgender individuals with advanced HIV disease and terminal cancer. We provide residents with 24-hour nursing and personal care services, and foster the opportunity for shared community life with family-style meals and the companionship of other residents, staff, and volunteers. Our clinical staff and trained caregivers work to create a home where the values of unreserved love and friendship are practiced. Together, we nurture the living and accompany the dying, providing a depth of physical, emotional and spiritual support that creates the possibility for profound healing and the restoration of individual dignity.

Joseph's House welcomes 35-40 individuals per year, up to eight at a time, and manages their care in coordination with local hospices, hospitals and outpatient clinics. Approximately two-thirds of those we welcome die while in residence and one-third regain their health and return to independent living.

### **Responsibilities**

The selected applicant will serve as one of two lead practitioners managing resident care; the other position is filled by an RN. Key responsibilities include:

- training and supervision of resident care staff and volunteers
- triage and admission of new residents

- developing and maintaining resident care protocols
- case management of residents either for end of life care or medical stabilization and transition
- close coordination of care with outside providers (outpatient hospices, hospitals, outpatient clinics) and advocacy on behalf of residents within the health care system as needed
- oversight of resident care, including symptom and medication management and daily personal care tasks
- patient and staff teaching and mentoring
- shared on-call responsibilities.

Working in close collaboration with the current RN and the executive director, the selected applicant will play a key role in nurturing the ethos of exquisite, attentive care and accompaniment at the heart of Joseph's House's service to those with advanced and end-stage illness.

### **Contemplative Care**

Joseph's House was founded upon the Biblical values of justice for the poor and friendship with the outcast. Mindfulness practice as we work with it in our everyday interactions at Joseph's House was first taught to us by Frank Ostaseski, a leading voice in contemplative end-of-life care. Our contemplative practices help us to listen more deeply. These practices help us turn toward suffering, rather than hurry past it.

Applicants should have a readiness to deepen their spiritual and personal growth through their service and interactions with all members of the Joseph's House community, especially our residents. Joseph's House provides intentional support for the personal growth of all staff and volunteers.

### **Qualifications**

- Appropriate professional degree
- Licensed or ability to be licensed in the District of Columbia
- Minimum of five to ten years of relevant experience

### **Benefits**

Competitive salary with benefits package. Flexible schedule possible.

### **Statement of Non-Discrimination**

Joseph's House will not discriminate against applicants or employees on the basis of race, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, color, age, national origin, religious beliefs, physical handicap, marital status, ancestry, past incarceration unrelated to job responsibilities, or liability for service in the armed forces of the United States. Joseph's House will not make any limitation in hiring unless based upon a legitimate occupational qualification.

**Additional Information**

For additional information on our programs and practices, including links to news articles and videos, visit [www.josephshouse.org](http://www.josephshouse.org).

**Application Process**

Please submit a letter of interest and CV or resume to Scott Sanders, Deputy Director, [scott@josephshouse.org](mailto:scott@josephshouse.org). If you have questions or need additional information before submitting an application, please contact us at [scott@josephshouse.org](mailto:scott@josephshouse.org).