

Anti-Carceral Peer Support Advocate & Frontline Crisis Responder

Position: Limited paid and volunteer roles available

Location: Remote *with option for potential in-person support work if interested*

Commitment: Flexible scheduling, minimum 5-10 hours per month

Compensation for paid roles: \$30/hour

Reports To/Works With: Anti-Carceral Mental Health Response Program Intake Coordinator

Start Date: Flexible, especially interested in folks who can start immediately

Link to interest form: bit.ly/peer-interest

About Us

Project LETS is a grassroots, anti-carceral mental health organization dedicated to supporting people experiencing emotional distress, psychiatric oppression, and mental health crises in holistic, non-coercive, and community-based ways. We reject psychiatric incarceration and forced treatment, focusing instead on peer support, harm reduction, self-determination, and culturally-rooted care strategies. Our work includes helping people navigate distress, advocating for their autonomy, and building community-based alternatives to psychiatric intervention—rooted in lineages of Mad Liberation and Disability Justice.

Overview of Role

Peer supporters and frontline crisis responders will provide direct support to individuals experiencing distress, crisis, or navigating the impacts of psychiatric oppression—assisting them in securing resources, bearing witness and providing emotional support, offering tangible/material support, advocating for their autonomy, and engaging in community-based care strategies that prioritize self-determination.

As the stewards of Liberation Psychology named, we deeply believe in the practice of accompaniment (or *acompañamiento*). *“Acompañamiento is defined*

as standing with people. It is an intentional act of being and experiencing social conditions alongside those who are impacted by these and inter-connected systems of oppression." (Goizueta, Sepúlveda, Watkins).

This role is grounded in shared lived experience, radical solidarity, and abolitionist values. We are especially interested in working with multiply marginalized folks who are survivors of psychiatric incarceration, peer support practitioners, holistic healing practitioners, and those with a strong commitment to anti-carceral and Disability Justice frameworks.

Peer supporter advocates and crisis responders will also support families, friends, and communities in responding to distress with non-carceral, non-coercive approaches.

Peer support is not clinical or diagnostic. Instead, it is relational, rooted in deep listening, and offers an alternative to coercive, medicalized approaches to mental health care.

Key Responsibilities

Direct Support & Advocacy

- Offer one-on-one peer support through phone, text, video, or in-person meetings, *depending on availability*.
- Provide non-judgmental, compassionate listening and mutual support.
- Assist individuals in psychiatric facilities with securing release, including strategizing legal, medical, and social advocacy efforts.
- Help individuals explore meaning-making outside of psychiatric frameworks, supporting their autonomy in crisis.
- Share lived experience when appropriate, while centering the other person's self-determination.

Community-Based Crisis Support

- Assist individuals in creating care and crisis plans that reflect their values and needs.

- Connect individuals with peer support groups , community care networks, and alternative healing resources.
- Offer non-police crisis support options to reduce reliance on coercion, psychiatric hospitalization, and involuntary “treatment”
- Help friends, families, and communities respond to distress in non-carceral, non-coercive ways.

Mutual Aid & Resource Navigation

- Connect individuals with clinical and non-clinical mental health providers and practitioners.
- Help individuals access necessities like housing, food, healthcare, and legal advocacy while centering their self-determination.
- Support our directory of community-based mental health resources and abolitionist crisis response initiatives.

Learning & Collective Growth

- Participate in peer support training sessions, skill shares, and debriefs.
- Engage in ongoing reflective practices and learning about anti-carceral mental health, disability justice, and culturally responsive care.
- Uphold accountability practices and community agreements within peer support relationships.

Skills

Required:

- Lived experience with Madness, neurodivergence, psychiatric disability, and/or mental illness; emotional/spiritual distress; psychiatric incarceration; and/or navigating non-clinical healing practices.
- Strong commitment to abolitionist, anti-carceral, and disability justice principles.
- Formal or informal experience in peer support, harm reduction, and/or frontline non-police crisis response.
- Ability to provide emotional support without imposing solutions or pathologizing experiences.

- Strong listening skills and ability to hold space for others without judgment.
- Comfort with setting boundaries and engaging in sustainable support practices.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively.

Preferred:

- Knowledge of alternative crisis response strategies, including herbalism, somatics, or spiritual care.
- Multilingual skills, particularly Spanish and ASL.
- Experience facilitating peer support groups or mutual aid networks.
- Experience supporting individuals in securing release from psychiatric facilities.
- Familiarity with navigating social services, housing support, and legal advocacy.

How to Express Interest

Please submit an [interest form](#). If you need to submit your answers through an alternative method, you may send a video, audio file, or PDF to support@projectlets.org.

No formal resumes or cover letters required. We especially encourage applications from multiply marginalized psychiatric survivors, Disabled people, Black and Indigenous people, and those directly impacted by carceral mental health systems.