



Position Title: Technical Assistance Specialist

Reports To: Project Director, Executive Director

FTE: 1.0, Full-Time, Exempt Position

Location: This is a remote position. California-based candidates are encouraged to apply due to service location.

The Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS) is a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to building capacity of the behavioral and public health field by promoting evidence-based practice and workforce development. CARS provides training, consultation, and resources for professional development to major initiatives in mental health and substance abuse. Our services support effective programs, policies, and practices at national, state, county, and local agencies, such as in state departments and county administrations. Our team is committed to improving individual and community health and wellness through evidence-based and culturally responsive practices that address complex social problems and reduce health disparities. We support authentic community engagement, elevation of cultural expertise, and the use of community-defined effective practices. We integrate youth, family, and lived-experiences voices into service development, delivery, and leadership. In all our work, our mission is to foster safe, healthy, and engaged people and communities.

Position Description: The Technical Assistance (TA) Specialist will support two new cohorts of grantees funded by California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). Grantees are funded as part of a statewide mandate to improve the crisis continuum of care; reduce disparities in access to high-quality mental health care; and increase diversion of those with mental health needs away from criminal justice and emergency room systems. The TA Specialist will work with newly funded grantees across two initiatives to assess crisis care opportunities and challenges; provide ongoing consultation and training; and develop field-facing resources and publications. The TA Specialist will facilitate monthly calls with grantees and collaborate with project leadership to design and deliver technical assistance. This position will take the lead in identifying evidence-based content—including training and resources—for mobile crisis care delivery; lead collaboration with community partners and stakeholders; and identify local resources and opportunities to expand access to crisis care. This position may also be asked to contribute their crisis care expertise to other CARS projects.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Prepare for and facilitate monthly grantee coaching calls to assesses needs and provide individualized consultation services
- Collaborate with grantees to identify and address the factors that increase racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, and gender identity-based disparities in access to care
- Design and facilitate learning collaboratives and identify and coordinate with presenters and key subject matter experts as needed

- Assess common support needs within and across grantee cohorts and develop and deliver training as appropriate
- Identify and synthesize high-quality crisis continuum of care research and create relevant content for grantees
- Provide leadership on the development of policy briefs and toolkits on key elements of the crisis continuum of care
- Work with the team to establish, curate, and update a virtual resource library for grantees
- Manage additional TA requests from project partners, funders, and grantees as appropriate
- Contribute to the creation of quarterly newsletters and social media content
- Participate in funder and partner meetings
- Travel to provide onsite TA services and to attend meetings as needed (travel restrictions are currently in place due to COVID-19).
- Other duties, as assigned

REQUIRED COMPETENCIES (Knowledge, Skills, Abilities)

The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Knowledge of California's crisis care services; experience with mobile crisis care a plus
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and ability to bring an anti-racist lens to program development and outcome evaluation
- Experience working with organizations that provide mental health services; experience working with law enforcement and/or first responders is preferred
- Knowledge of California's criminal justice system and its intersection with mental health
- Ability to provide training to groups of various sizes
- Knowledge of the role of peer support in crisis care
- Ability to design and deliver evidence-based curricula on diverse mental health-related topics
- Excellent verbal, written, and interpersonal communication skills, including advanced presentation, facilitation, and writing skills
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with diverse and multi-cultural stakeholders and communities
- Ability to analyze and report on both quantitative and qualitative data; experience with evaluation a plus

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Advanced degree or postgraduate training or equivalent experience required
- Minimum 7 years' experience in the mental health field with a focus on crisis care

CARS offers a small business environment and an excellent benefit package. CARS provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard

to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or genetics. We strongly encourage and seek applications from people of color, including bilingual and bi-cultural individuals, as well as Veterans and people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, and/or transgender. Lived experience with mental health and/or justice system involvement is highly valued.

Salary range: \$90,000-\$115,000.00 annually

To Apply: Submit a current resume and cover letter explaining your interest in the position. All materials should be sent electronically to carshr@cars-rp.org by **January 21, 2022**. This position will remain open until filled. No phone calls please. Thank you in advance for your interest.