

# Julio Vasquez

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## Professional Summary

Highly motivated psychology graduate experienced working with low income communities, people living with HIV as well as those struggling with substance dependence, mainly opiates and alcohol.

## Experience

### Harm Reduction Specialist

New York, New York

December 2015 - January 2017

Lower East Side Harm Reduction Center

- Provide individual and group counseling to clients with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders with a caseload of 25+ clients
- Facilitating group analysing different elements of recovery and how to retain sobriety
- Participate and contribute to multidisciplinary treatment team meetings to coordinate clients' care
- Provide crisis management for incidents involving medical or mental health emergencies, overdose response, law enforcement, and other conflicts.

### Youth Advocate

New York, New York

April 2015- Present

SafeHorizon

- Serve as an advocate for clients navigating the shelter system
- Provide individual counseling to youth impacted by homelessness through a client centered approach
- Engage a diverse population of clients and ensure that the needs of 24 clients are being met while at the overnight residence
- Develop individualised plans using the Harm Reduction model to support of clients in meeting their goals while at the overnight residence
- Maintain a safe and supportive space at the overnight residence by intervening in crisis and resolving disputes when needed

### Peer Program Assistant

New York, New York

2013-2015

Lower East Side Harm Reduction Center

- Co-facilitate a Peer Education group of 10 participants aimed to educate them on HIV/Hepatitis C prevention, overdose prevention as well as drugs and drug policy
- Develop and facilitate a support group once a week following the stages of change model and relapse prevention techniques with a regular attendance of 6+ participants
- Perform HIV exams and Hepatitis C using the Oraquick antibody test
- Keep a log of all services provided and record group notes into AIRS

### Youth Worker

Bonao, Dominican Republic

June 2014-August 2015

USAID/Dominican Institute of Integrated Development

- Mentored 15+ youth leaders in a team with 4 other Youth Workers and assisted them in organising workshops in their communities on topics such as Culture of Peace and STD prevention
- Ensured the proper distribution of workshop supplies to the youth leaders and made sure their needs were met
- Supervised the lectures and workshops to ensure the information was delivered correctly.
- Maintained the youth leaders motivated and ensure the project's goals in the region were met

## Skills

- Professional proficiency in English, Spanish and Portuguese
- Adaptability; Experienced fulfilling multiple roles
- Team player

- Crisis intervention and dis-calating

## Education

The City College Of New York

B.A, Psychology **summa cum laude**

2010-2015

Pontifical Catholic University Of Rio de Janeiro

Exchange Semester 2014