

Joseph Hunter, MA Counseling Psychology

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to inform you of my interest in the part-time mental health therapist position at CORA. I am eager to use the skills I have developed in my graduate training and in my work experience. I learned about CORA from a job posting and I believe that my experience, training and personality would be a great fit for the agency.

My graduate internship took place at Laurel House that serves survivors of abuse and domestic violence. My training in school and at Laurel House was very comprehensive and I felt very competent when entering into individual and group sessions in which I utilized a client-centered and humanistic approach that is both trauma informed and evidence based. I believe my experience working with the diverse population at Laurel House will aid me in working with a wide variety of students in the capacity of professor and/or counselor.

My professional experience in the mental health field began at Pathways to Housing where I worked to end chronic homelessness through the Housing First model. I had a caseload of participants with a wide range of mental and physical functioning, chronic homelessness, severe and/or ongoing medical issues as well as drug and alcohol dependencies. I worked not only to connect to services and to advocate for, but also to assist the participants in reintegrating into society. The assorted caseload required me to be very flexible and resourceful in how I approached helping different participants. I took opportunities to be creative in my occupational work with participants by teaching skills classes and taking trips to cultural places such as museums, aquariums and restaurants.

I took a detour from the mental health sector in 2012 to open an artisan pizza restaurant. I wanted to create jobs in a blighted corridor and bring a valuable food option to the Fishtown/East Kensington neighborhood. My business partners and I planned, designed and built everything from the physical space, menus, computer systems, social media to fixtures and aesthetics. Since we have been in business I have used the restaurants as a vehicle to serve the community. We have collaborated with schools doing internships, lectures, classes and parties. We have also involved ourselves directly with agencies such as Girls Rock Philly, NKCDC and Circle of Hope. We have since opened a second location in Brewerytown in 2017. I have developed a wide skill set because of the varied needs of the businesses that I believe would be beneficial to the college and its mission. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Joseph Hunter