



Employment Opportunity

Position:	Child & Youth Counsellor
Department:	Children's Program
Reports to:	Community Counselling and Outreach Manager
Employment Type:	Full-Time Permanent
Hours of Work:	30 hours (must be available to work days, afternoons, evenings and weekends)
Starting Wage:	\$25.67 per hour
Benefits Available:	Extended Health, EAP, RRSP, Sick Days, Personal Days
Location:	59 North Park Street, Brantford ON
Start Date:	As soon as possible
Date Posted:	March 22, 2024
Closing Date to Apply:	April 5, 2024

Job Summary

The Child and Youth Counsellor provides services to children/youth (0-18), as well as their mothers*, who have experienced domestic violence, intimate partner violence, gender based violence and/or homelessness through a trauma-informed lens in a variety of interventions. The Child and Youth Counsellor will be responsible for facilitating individualized safety planning, structured play, educational programming, individual and group counselling, assessments, crisis support, referrals and advocacy.

**includes trans-women, non-binary, and gender diverse individuals*

Qualifications

- Post-secondary education in Child and Youth Care or equivalent is required
- Member in good standing of the Ontario Association of Child & Youth Care or equivalent regulatory body would be an asset
- Two years of experience in a shelter setting would be an asset
- Excellent understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence and homelessness and its impact on women and children, including knowledge of the Brantford/Brant County community and resources available
- Strong working knowledge and practical application of trauma-informed interventions for children who have witnessed or been impacted by violence is essential
- Demonstrated experience working with diverse populations from an intersectional, inclusive and anti-oppressive lens is essential
- Mental Health First Aid and/or ASIST Training is preferred
- Proven experience/training in delivering group and individual programming

- Ability to work flexible shifts in accordance with shelter needs
- Computer literacy is essential
- Crisis Prevention/Intervention Training is an asset
- Verification of COVID-19 Vaccination
- Valid driver's license and own vehicle is an asset
- Valid First Aid Certificate
- Ability to lift and carry up to 30lbs.

Essential Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Excellent knowledge of and experience with safety planning, risk assessment, case management, skills building, goal-setting and providing appropriate referrals
- Strong experience in assessing, counselling, and providing services and appropriate referrals to children and youth who have witnessed or experienced violence and/or homelessness
- Excellent knowledge of conflict resolution skills, healthy communication strategies, de-escalation strategies, and ability to manage crisis situations
- Excellent knowledge of Nova Vita programs and services
- Excellent knowledge of community resources in Brantford, County of Brant, and Six Nations
- Excellent interpersonal, professional, and time management skills
- Excellent communications skills; written, verbal, and non-verbal
- Demonstrated ability to take initiative and work as part of a team, both within Nova Vita and with community partners
- Demonstrated ability to work in a fast-paced environment and manage competing demands
- Proficient in Microsoft office, database entry, and other technology communication platforms
- Ability to demonstrate initiative, creativity, flexibility, patience, and independence
- Ability to model healthy interpersonal relationships, including communication, conflict management, and boundary-setting

Duties and Responsibilities

- Complete intakes and needs assessments, individual and group counselling for caregivers and children
- Complete individual safety plans for clients at risk
- Create case management plans for caregivers and children while residing in the shelter
- Assist in the development and implementation of trauma informed departmental programming
- Work with caregivers on parenting challenges by providing support and education
- Provide crisis intervention and supportive counselling to caregivers and their children who have experienced domestic violence or homelessness
- Provide support, advocacy, and referrals to caregivers and children involved with community services
- Prepare and deliver public education presentations to children and youth in the community
- Work cooperatively with team members and volunteers to ensure appropriate and efficient program delivery for children of all ages and their caregivers
- Prepare reports for social service agencies, courts and other community agencies as required
- Work cooperatively with community organizations
- Assist in maintaining a clean and tidy work environment
- Assume other duties as required

Accountabilities

- Adhere to a strict code of client confidentiality at all times
- Adhere to relevant legislation and agency-wide policies & procedures at all times
- Participate in required trainings and ongoing professional development

- Remain current with relevant information and interventions concerning working with children and youth who have experienced domestic violence and homelessness
 - Maintain professional and ethical boundaries with clients and community partners at all times
 - Maintain health and safety requirements at all times, including COVID-19 prevention protocols
 - Ensure clients receive appropriate and timely crisis counselling, support, and safety planning
 - Complete all documentation and database entries in a timely manner and meet professional standards
 - Engage in regular supervision with the Community Counselling and Outreach Manager
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Application

If you require accessibility accommodations during the recruitment process, please notify us to arrange reasonable and appropriate accommodation. Nova Vita is an equal opportunity employer and strives to be reflective and inclusive of the communities we serve. We encourage individuals who identify as Indigenous, racialized, immigrant, LGBTQI+, or disAbled to apply. We appreciate your interest in this employment opportunity, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Interested and qualified applicants should submit their resume and a cover letter by **Friday, April 5, 2024** at 4pm to the attention of:

Melanie McFadden, Community Counselling and Outreach Manager
Nova Vita Domestic Violence Prevention Services
Email: mmcfadden@novavita.org
Email Subject: Child & Youth Counsellor
