



Job posting: Counsellor

Position: Counsellor

Program: Seniors and Caregivers Support Service

Permanent Part-Time: 0.7 FTE or 24.5 hours/week

Primary Location: 128A Sterling Road with frequent travel within Toronto

Salary Range: Salary Grade 8 Bargaining Unit - \$53,940 - \$66,437 (pro-rated to time worked)

February 28, 2017

Family Service Toronto (FST) helps people face a wide variety of life challenges. For over 100 years, we have worked with individuals and families destabilized by precarious mental health and/or socioeconomic circumstances, to achieve greater resilience and stability in more just and supportive communities. We achieve this through our direct service work of intervention and prevention which includes counselling, peer support and education; knowledge building; and system-level work including social action, advocacy, community-building and working with partners to strengthen the sector.

The Seniors and Caregivers Support Service Department at Family Service Toronto provides counselling services and case management supports to older people and caregivers. Our work includes counselling, group work, advocacy, training and educational sessions on a variety of topics.

Reporting to the Manager, David Kelley Services and Senior and Caregiver Services, the Counsellor will provide counselling and group work supports to seniors and their caregivers who experience elder abuse; mental health issues, including issues such as depression and anxiety; isolation, bereavement and other related issues as well as providing education and training sessions to seniors and caregivers on a range of topics. This position will also play a lead role in assisting seniors experiencing abuse to move into and live at Pat's Place – a safe haven for older people experiencing abuse. The Counsellor may be required to travel to the client's home throughout Toronto when clients are unable to travel to an FST office.

In applying, please clearly identify how you meet the specific qualifications outlined.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide assessment, safety planning, referrals and on-going counselling to seniors and their caregivers
- Provide individual, couple and/or family counselling as well as group-based supports
- Case management and system navigation supports to seniors and caregivers
- Community outreach, including networking, educational workshops and the provision of presentations
- Work with seniors to access Pat's Place, a safe haven for seniors who have been abused
- Prepare written clinical assessments, case notes, reports and letters
- Conduct provincially-mandated assessments (interRAI preliminary screener and CHA)
- Participate in funder lead/required initiatives in the seniors sector
- Work independently in the community with minimal supervision
- Integrate outcome measurement tools (ORS/SRS) into clinical practice to evaluate progress of clients
- Ensure the regular and timely recording of data as required by funder(s) and as part of FST policy

- Collaborate with other staff across the agency as appropriate
- Provide supervision to students and volunteers
- Ability to work a flexible schedule including occasional evenings and/or weekends

QUALIFICATIONS

- M.S.W. or equivalent combination of education and experience over a minimum five year period. Foreign credentials and relevant experience will be considered
- Registered Social Worker in good standing with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW) or registered member or eligibility to register with a regulated health profession that includes the qualification to practice psychotherapy
- Minimum of three years of demonstrated clinical skills and experience working with seniors and their caregivers around issues related to aging, living with chronic disease, and relationship issues; working with older people experiencing abuse; working with diverse client populations, including LGBTQ, marginalized and/or underrepresented communities
- Demonstrated experience and competence in at least two clinical modalities (e.g. narrative therapy, cognitive behavioural therapy, mindfulness, etc.)
- Current knowledge of best practices in working with seniors and caregivers
- Excellent listening, verbal and written communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to offer counselling and group work services
- Demonstrated experience conducting workshops on issues related to seniors and caregivers with a variety of audiences such as caregivers, seniors, health care providers and the general public
- Experience conducting groups with seniors and/or caregivers
- Good working knowledge of community resources for seniors and caregivers in the City of Toronto
- Experience using evaluation tools (preferably the ORS/SRS) in work with clients
- Experience using provincially mandated, sector specific assessment tools (interRAI Preliminary Screener, CHA and supplements) and CIMS software
- Ability to work independently in the community and as a member of a team
- Possess strong administrative skills and attention to detail
- Good computer literacy and experience with electronic data systems
- Demonstrated commitment to social justice, cultural competency and equity and inclusion
- Experience supervising students and volunteers
- Criminal reference check with Vulnerable Sector Search completed within the past 12 months
- A valid Ontario driver's licence and regular access to a vehicle or the ability to travel throughout Toronto via public transportation
- Must be available the second Thursday of each month to attend full day team meetings

SALARY RANGE:

Salary Grade 8 Bargaining Unit
\$53,940 - \$66,437 (pro-rated to time worked)

DEADLINE TO APPLY:

March 14, 2017, 5.00 pm.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a letter of application and resume. **Please quote SCSS #6-17.**

E-mail: hrdep@familyservicetoronto.org; or

Mail: Human Resource Services

Family Service Toronto

#202 – 128A Sterling Road, Toronto, ON M6R 2B7

We are committed to developing a diverse service team that reflects the diversity of the population who live and work in the city of Toronto. We actively encourage applicants from all equity seeking groups especially those with lived experience from racialized and/or marginalised communities. Our goal is to attract, develop, and retain highly talented employees from diverse backgrounds allowing us to benefit from a wide variety of experiences and perspectives.

In accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and FST's Equity and Inclusion policy, accommodation will be provided in all parts of the hiring process. Applicants need to make their needs known in advance.

We thank all applicants and will contact the individuals selected for an interview. No phone calls please.